



Daily Report

Latin America

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Friday
24 June 1988

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Group of Eight Meet; Panama Not in Attendance
PA2406041688 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish
0118 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Oaxaca, Mexico 23 Jun (REUTER)—High-ranking officials of seven Latin American foreign ministries, members of the Group of Eight, began a 2-day meeting today on the eve of a foreign ministers meeting to be held over the weekend. The main topics of discussion will be the foreign debt, trade relations, and regional unity.

The weekend meeting will be the Group of Eight's fourth follow-up meeting after last November's presidential summit in Acapulco.

The meeting, which begins Saturday, will also be to discuss the preparations for a new Latin American presidential summit to be held in Uruguay next October.

Today Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda said that a very important goal of the Oaxaca meeting is to establish stronger ties between Latin America and regional organizations.

"Our purpose is to improve coordination, strengthen the ties with those organizations, and therefore achieve true regional unity," Sepulveda said.

Representatives of the IDB, ALADI, and the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (CEPAL) are also participating at the Oaxaca meeting.

The Group of Eight is comprised of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Panama, however, was suspended from the group after the coup against President Eric Arturo Delvalle last February.

Sepulveda said Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter will not participate in the Oaxaca meeting, but he will attend a Contadora and Support Group meeting on Monday, 27 June, in Mexico.

Sepulveda said: "As a Central American country, Panama must participate in Contadora Group meetings."

Sepulveda added that Ritter's presence will provide an opportunity to become directly aware of the current internal political situation in Panama.

ECLA Leader Praises Summit Decision on Debt
PY2306150588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0206 GMT
23 Jun 88

[Text] Santiago, 22 Jun (EFE)—Today Gert Rosenthal, ECLA executive secretary, praised the decision of the seven richest Western countries to ease the foreign debt burden of the poorest African countries.

He said: "The fact that the foreign debt problem was a priority issue on the agenda of the seven countries shows a general recognition of how serious the problem is, not only for the countries directly affected, but also for the international economy as a whole."

Rosenthal, a Guatemalan economist, who graduated from the University of California, said the Toronto meeting that concluded yesterday "shows once again that easing the debt burden is for many countries a prerequisite for renewed growth."

Rosenthal said that at the Toronto meeting "a positive movement began, though it is still insufficient; the demand that has been made for a long time by the debtor countries and the position of the main creditor countries have begun to converge."

Rosenthal added: "In other words, both the extent of the relief from the debt and the various ways of providing it have been evolving slowly in the direction demanded by the debtor countries."

He said: "Important creditor countries are for the first time realizing that, for some countries, forgiving part of the debt should be one of the measures to overcome the problem."

Rosenthal hopes that the relief measures applied to the public debt of some African countries will be extended to the private debt and that "the spirit of those decisions will influence the debt negotiations between creditors and the Latin American and Caribbean countries."

Cuba

Daniel Ortega To Arrive in Havana 'Shortly'

FL2406104788 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1032 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] The president of Nicaragua, Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, will arrive in Havana shortly at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. Ortega, coordinator of the Executive Committee of the FSLN National Directorate, will make an official, friendly, and working visit to our country.

The government of national reconstruction was formed in Nicaragua with the triumph of the Sandinist revolution on 19 July 1979. This government faced the difficult job of rebuilding the country's political and administrative system. However, since 1981, Nicaragua has been suffering a war of aggression imposed by the United States which has cost the lives of thousands of its children and material losses amounting to some \$1.2 billion.

The fatherland of Sandino is committed to nonalignment and pluralism.

Risquet, Dos Santos Review Quadripartite Agenda

FL2306233588 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1948 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] The Cuban members of the joint delegation with Angola to the quadripartite talks in Cairo, Egypt, departed Luanda today after 2 days of work and coordination with their Angolan counterparts.

Hours before the Cuban delegation's departure, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos received Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the PCC Politburo and Secretariat, who heads our country's delegation. At that time, Risquet and Dos Santos reviewed the agenda that Cuba and Angola will take to the second round of talks with South Africa and the United States on the crisis in South-West Africa. The meeting will be held tomorrow and Saturday.

The joint Cuban-Angolan delegation worked for 2 days on the topics they will discuss with Pretoria and Washington, based on the platform presented during the London conference in May.

Alarcon Satisfied With Talks in Uruguay

FL2306202488 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon has stated in Montevideo that relations between Cuba and Uruguay are built on very solid ground. Alarcon could not help expressing satisfaction with the results of his mission to Uruguay.

Following an official 3-day visit, Alarcon noted that the two governments' common determination to cultivate and strengthen their relations dovetailed with the will of the two peoples, bound by deep-rooted and firm feelings of friendship.

Alarcon arrived in Montevideo on Sunday to examine the state of bilateral relations with Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano in the wake of an incident the press attributed to Cuban Ambassador Joaquin Mas Martinez during a conversation with Uruguayan Defense Minister General Hugo Medina, retired.

'Military,' 'Pseudodemocracies' No Help in Haiti

PA2406014388 Havana International Service
in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 88

["Our America" commentary, read by Norberto Hernandez]

[Text] General Henry Namphy's return to rule in Haiti, this time through a coup d'etat against President Leslie Manigat, has suddenly put the Haitian issue back on the international scene. Manigat retired Namphy last Tuesday after the general decided to transfer Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, commander of the Dessalines Barracks headquarters, the most important headquarters in the country. Manigat said the transfer order had not been discussed with civilian authorities. Meanwhile, Paul was forced to comply, and the president decided to retire the Armed Forces commander. The crisis finally ended with Manigat's dismissal by Namphy, who had been in charge of the government from dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier's fall in February 1986 until only 4 months ago. The coup ended a brief period of attempted democracy in Haiti under Leslie Manigat, who rose to power in controversial elections and was described by observers as the U.S. civilian plan for this Caribbean nation.

However, what has really drawn the analysts' attention and aroused their suspicion is that during his first public appearance after the coup, Henri Namphy, the new Haitian dictator, appeared with Col Paul, the alleged bone of contention between Manigat and the Army chief. For many people, this identification between the two military men indicates that the entire story of Col Paul's transfer, his refusal, and the support he received from Manigat were nothing more than a crude joke that provided an excuse for the new coup.

Early reactions to the military coup have not been precisely supportive, especially in Latin America, which has been exposed over the years to military dictatorships. It is difficult for the region to forget the recent history of the military regimes in Argentina and Uruguay, which murdered and kidnapped thousands of citizens, and those still governing Chile and Paraguay with the most violent repression.

For the time being, Henri Namphy's cabinet will be composed entirely of members of the Armed Forces, and Interior and National Defense Minister Colonel Williams Regala has been confirmed in his post. It is reported that almost all of the figures Namphy has included in the government held posts during the 2 years the country was governed by the military junta created at Washington's request after Jean-Claude Duvalier's departure, which in fact implies a return to the beginning.

We must remember—of course without defending it—the alleged democratic plan that Manigat presented, and the fact that the military were the ones who aborted the first elections after Duvalier fell and created a climate of generalized terror during the second elections, in which the currently deposed president was elected. Meanwhile, Washington has indicated it will maintain relations with the Haitian military, who were used by the White House to create a national crisis so the U.S. Government could maintain control of Haiti.

One conclusion is valid and clear regarding the Haitian problem: Neither the military nor pseudodemocracies linked to Washington are the solution for a people who for decades have only known violence and hunger.

Special Program on Human Rights Issues Aired

FL2206022688 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 21 June carries a 58-minute segment on human rights during its "Wide Angle" program. Host Martinez Pirez says they are doing this "because a delegation of the UN Human Rights Commission will arrive in our country soon."

The names of the delegation members are printed on the screen. Alioune Sene, from Senegal, will head the delegation. The five other members are Todor Dichev, Bulgaria; Rafael Rivas, Colombia; Jose Ingles, Philippines; Michael Lillis, Ireland; and Judith Attah, Nigeria.

Another reason for the program is to stress "our recent election as a full member of the UN Human Rights Commission," adds Martinez Pirez.

The program includes recorded highlights of the meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva in March and April 1988. The heads of the U.S. and Cuban delegations, Armando Valladares and Raul Roa Kouri, respectively, are shown making remarks on human rights in Cuba.

Martinez Pirez' first guest is Carlos Lechuga, Cuban ambassador to the United Nations. Lechuga notes that "Cuba and Latin America attained a political victory" at the human rights meeting in Geneva when a U.S. resolution on human rights in Cuba was defeated. At this time Cuba offered to let a group of five representatives observe the human rights situation in Cuba, he adds.

"During the past few weeks, something even more important has occurred," says Lechuga. "New members were elected to the UN Human Rights Commission." He notes that Cuba was elected despite the anti-Cuban campaign led by the Reagan government. "Another country that was elected was Panama," Lechuga says, "which is in the middle of a fierce U.S. campaign against the people and Government of Panama."

When Panamanian Ambassador to Cuba Manuel Orestes Nieto is asked about his country's election to the Human Rights Commission, he says that this is a very

important event because of the pressure the United States is applying to Panama. The United States has violated all of Panama's rights and laws, he adds.

Martinez Pirez also interviews Guatemalan human rights activist, Rigoberta Menchu Tum, who discusses the situation in her country.

In reference to Guatemala, remarks attributed to U.S. presidential candidate Michael Dukakis are shown on the screen stating that in 1954, the U.S. Government arranged the overthrow of the democratically-elected Guatemalan Government which led to the most brutal repression in the hemisphere.

Martinez Pirez also interviews Olga Sanabria, Carlos Galliza, and Noel Colon Martinez, members of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party, who state that the United States has violated Puerto Rico's rights.

Inter-Caribbean

Human Rights Group Cancels Visits to Haiti

FL2206171088 *Bridgetown CANA in English*
1600 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 22, CANA—A three-member team from the Inter-American Human Rights Commission which was due to visit Haiti on July 3 has cancelled the trip, a member of the commission said here on Wednesday.

Former Barbadian diplomat and attorney-at-law, Oliver Jackman told CANA the visit has been "aborted" because of a coup in the French-speaking Caribbean nation.

Military leader Lieutenant-General Henri Namphy seized power from President Leslie Manigat in a coup last Sunday ending four months of civilian rule.

The Inter-American Human Rights group was invited by the Manigat administration to have a first hand look at the situation in Haiti following the January 17 elections said by the opposition and international observers to have been massively rigged.

"The government which invited us to Haiti is no longer in power," Jackman said.

Trade Among OECS Countries Increases

FL1606202688 *Bridgetown CANA in English*
1806 GMT 16 Jun 88

[Text] St. John's, Antigua, June 16, CANA—Trade among the seven countries belonging to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) was worth EC73 million dollars last year, an increase of 11 million dollars over 1986, according to the locally-based OECS Economic Affairs Secretariat.

The secretariat, in a statement, noted that intra-OECS domestic exports rose by 15.7 percent over the 1986 to 1987 period with Dominica and St Lucia being the two major buyers of intra-OECS imports.

St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines were the two major suppliers of OECS products to the sub-regional grouping, the statement said. It pointed out that while OECS imports from Caricom's more developed countries showed an increase of 17 percent in 1987, domestic exports fell from 136.9 million to 96.2 million dollars or 30 percent.

The figures showed a massive drop of 56.4 million dollars or 54.2 percent in OECS domestic exports to Trinidad and Tobago compared with 1986.

In addition, the statement pointed out that most OECS states in 1987 continued to experience worsening trade balances with the United States.

Despite significant increases in domestic exports (which may be attributed to the Caribbean Basin Initiative, (CBI), that expansion had been offset by equally large increases in the level of imports, the statement said. According to the statement, OECS countries managed to achieve increased levels of domestic exports to Canada either through the Caribbean programme or other traditional export activity.

The statement noted that only Dominica was able to maintain a positive balance of trade with the European Economic Community (EEC) in the 1986-87 period.

Dominican Republic

Manigat on Haitian Army, 'Apparent Unity'
*FL2306164388 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1830 GMT 22 Jun 88*

[Report on interview with former Haitian President Leslie Manigat by unidentified Radio Canada reporter, carried on the 21 June "Le Point" program; date and place not given—with portion recorded]

[Excerpt] Deposed President Leslie Manigat has said that the measures Namphy was going to take affected not only Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, but some 12 military men, among them the commander of the Haitian air base, whom he was going to retire.

Manigat stated that his decision to remove General Namphy had been approved of by several high-ranking military officers. Manigat said, further, that one of the now most important of these high-ranking officers had said that to remove Namphy was a necessity. Mr Manigat noted that the unity of the Army is only apparent.

[Begin recording, in French] [Manigat] I must say something that is the pure, unadulterated truth: When I decided to remove Gen Namphy as commander in chief and to send him into retirement, and when I gave the

order to this effect, this decision was approved of by the principal officers concerned and joyously received. I'm not saying merely positively. I say with joy by most of the officers. They realized that not only had Namphy become an obstacle to the normal process of democratization embarked upon by the government but he constituted a problem within the Army itself.

I cannot tell you—because that would require lots of time—how many high-ranking Army officers admitted that the removal of Gen Namphy had become a necessity, to use the words of one of them, and one of the best-known among the current government, at that!

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the support of General [as heard] Jean-Claude Paul, I believe.

[Manigat] Yes, but listen, this is what I don't understand! There is a tendency in North America to want to make the Jean-Claude Paul thing a matter of an individual. This is not the question at all!

It is a question of principle—the reaffirmation of the principle of the supremacy of civilian power over the military institution, which is an eminently democratic principle. You must understand this well!

Listen, it wasn't simply a matter of Col Jean-Claude Paul. It was also a matter of a man as important as the commander of the Haitian Army's air forces, [as heard] who had also been retired—and this incident is even more serious—by General Namphy. I rescinded this order, too. It was a matter of more than a dozen high-ranking officers. Colonel (Sove) had been retired. Everyone keeps trying to polarize the matter around Col Paul, whereas it is a question of a measure affecting several officers, and of a question of principle.

[Reporter] But you did know that Col Paul had been indicted by a U.S. grand jury for drug trafficking.

[Manigat] Listen, you are going back to the same question. I can tell you—since you insist on returning to the question despite my position, which is a position of principle that has nothing to do with any individual—that we had stated our position on this matter publicly in a communique signed by the prime minister and the minister of foreign affairs stating our clear and definitive position on the fight against drugs. We are in favor of the fight against drugs. All we ask is that any foreign government that has any accusation to make send us the dossier on the charge, together with the proof, so that the pertinent national institutions can look into the matter and draw their conclusions. We were willing to act on the conclusions of our national institutions.

That is the procedure among all sovereign states. I don't see why anyone should expect us to proceed any differently. So much for the case of Col Paul.

But believe me, Madame, if you really wish to interview me on serious matters, it is not a question of the individual Col Paul—who, besides, is presently, according to what I've been told, at Namphy's side, hugging him. That's not the problem. That is not the question. That is not the question! [repeats himself]

[Reporter] How come the officers who agreed with you regarding the removal of Gen Namphy went over to his side?

[Manigat] Because they want to make a show of the Army's unity as an institution, obviously.

Do not forget, Madame, that I was the head of the government for a while. I saw many things. I know many things. If they are today giving an apparent show in order to maintain the unity of the Army, it is because this has always been one of their concerns. If it had not been one of their concerns, we would have had changes in the Army a long time go.

Understand this well. Namphy was able to exploit this desire on the part of the Army not to provide a spectacle of division and to avoid a bloody confrontation. He was able to exploit it in favor of his coup d'etat. But this does not change Haiti's political and military reality, and this is the fundamental thing today.

[Reporter] What is going to happen in Haiti now, Mr Manigat?

[Manigat] What is going to happen? As you know, I am a political analyst, not a prophet. But as an actor on the political scene, I can tell you that the struggle for democratization continues; that the coup d'etat may have abruptly struck the Haitian people, struck public opinion—for it is a military coup d'etat reestablishing a regime of military dictatorship. You must know, of course, that the legislative chambers have been dissolved, that these gentlemen are ruling by decree, and that all the cabinet posts are held by military men. This is thus a military coup, establishing a military dictatorship in all its glory, if I may put it that way.

[Reporter] What are you going to do?

[Manigat] Well, in a press conference I held here in Santo Domingo this morning attended by the world press—there were probably members of the Canadian press present—I discussed my actions.

First, I made a solemn and fraternal appeal to all Haitian democrats to put aside a past rampant with mutual error in order to form a solidarity front in favor of democracy. I called for the solidarity and unity of all my Haitian compatriots both inside and outside Haiti.

I also appealed to all other nations to repudiate the military coup d'etat and the reestablishment of a dictatorship in Haiti. I asked them to censure the regime and to ostracize it politically.

Next, I will make a series of trips so that together we—and not just me alone—can prepare a strategic action plan. The seeds we sowed during the 130 days, together with the indisputable aspiration to democracy revealed

on 7 February 1986, when Duvalier fell, are going to germinate, I am certain. We ourselves are still here. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Says Victim of Corruption Fight

PM2306105488 Paris LE MONDE in French
23 Jun 88 p 48

[Jean-Michel Caroit dispatch: "Leslie Manigat Thinks He Is a Victim of His Fight Against Corruption"]

[Text] Santo Domingo—"The coup d'etat was premeditated. Henri Namphy, the dictator, wanted to stop the democratization process which my government had speeded up over the past few days," deposed Haitian President Leslie Manigat said in a press conference in Santo Domingo, where he has taken refuge. He said that the coup d'etat was a result of his fight "against corruption." Mr Manigat said that Colonel Prosper Avril had played a key role in planning and carrying out the coup. "I learned of the coup while watching television in my residence," he said. "At 0200 hours a military unit supported by a tank firing its guns stormed the residence where I was with friends and aides."

The deposed president, who was in good shape, and switched readily from French to Spanish or English, accused "Gen Namphy and his friends" of opposing his government's fight against smuggling. A few weeks ago, an armed group demonstrated in the streets of Saint-Marc (north of Port-au-Prince) against the customs reform, shouting "Down With Manigat; Long Live the Army!" This hostile demonstration was organized by Saint-Marc's military commander "on Gen Namphy's instructions" Leslie Manigat said. "The increase in insecurity and murders in broad daylight were the main political obstacle which my government encountered over recent weeks," the deposed president added, and he made accusations against "some sectors of the Armed Forces." "A week before I was deposed, the forces in the Dessalines Barracks commanded by Colonel Jean-Claude Paul discovered a network of terrorists who were creating insecurity in Port-au-Prince and the provinces. Ten of the 11 members of that group were soldiers on active service," he said.

Accompanied by Mirlande, his wife, Leslie Manigat painted a disturbing picture of Gen Namphy: "He is sick not only physically but mentally. Like Bismarck, he is the kind of man who cannot adapt to his situation after exercising power and losing it.... Gen Namphy does not believe in democracy. He told me, in the presence of witnesses, that he would not recognize the Constitution and refused to read it."

Stating that he feels neither "bitterness nor personal resentment," Mr Manigat said he is "optimistic about the future." "In this game of the loser wins, I seem to be the loser now but in fact I am the winner because I now represent democracy's cause," he said. According to him, the military government is "fragile" and the Armed Forces unity behind

Gen Namphy is "artificial and temporary." "When I ordered Gen Namphy's dismissal, 90 percent of officers welcomed the news," he said. He even said that Col Paul's support for Gen Namphy was a "superficial gesture" which was merely aimed at "preserving the "military institution's facade of homogeneity."

He regretted the fact that "other democratic sectors" realized too late that his government "represented the only chance of democracy in Haiti." "When the Catholic church agreed to a public reconciliation with my government 1 week before I was deposed, it was already too late." In conclusion, he appealed for "a strong union of all democrats in the struggle against the military dictatorship," offering to lead that movement. The former president, who is to rest for a few days with his family in the Dominican Republic, is due to take part in an international conference in Rome next week.

Grenada

Drug Trafficking to Trinidad Airline Concern

FL1606154488 Bridgetown CANA in English
1525 GMT 16 Jun 88

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Jun 16, CANA—Liat is concerned about the increasing use of its aircraft for carrying illegal drugs between Grenada and neighbouring Trinidad and Tobago, the airlines local Manager William Otway says.

"It is of great concern to us. We are very worried about it. We don't want to be involved in it because it makes the company look bad," Otway told reporters.

In recent weeks, customs officials in Grenada have made some arrests after finding sizeable quantities of marijuana and cocaine among luggage on Liat flights out of Port-of-Spain.

Otway said that in most places where the airline operates it has its own checking procedures but unfortunately it is "very difficult to search everybody's luggage."

"...We try to observe as best we can who is carrying what and we do have some security facilities provided but as one realizes you can never do it 100 percent," he said.

Otway said Liat feared that drugs might be found on its flights to either Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Island of St Thomas impose heavy fines on aircraft found with drugs on them. [sentence as received].

Haiti

Manigat's Information Minister, Others Arrested

FL2306190388 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] After the coup that ousted President Leslie Manigat, Roger E. Savain, his information minister and a close friend, was arrested the day before yesterday at around 0530.

A group of armed men appeared at his house in the Delmas section and asked him to follow them. According to a well-informed source, the former minister was first taken to the Criminal Investigations Department and then he was transferred to Fort Dimanche. No one as yet knows why he was arrested.

Also, we have been informed of the arrest of Mr (Rodney Marcellus), an Information Ministry employee, and (Narcisse Lescoufleur), a member of the Assembly of Progressive National Democrats, RDNP. We have not as yet been able to verify this last report.

AFP reports that some 20 partisans of the ex-president who were at the Villa d'Accueil, Mr Manigat's villa, when it was overrun by troops loyal to General Namphy on Sunday night, have been arrested. Among them is a member of Mr Manigat's private staff, Mr (Lionel Desgranges).

Speaking of Mr (Desgranges), we have learned that there have been demonstrations in Petit Goave and that his house in Petit Goave has been destroyed.

Party, Organization Leaders React to Coup

PDCH's Sylvio Claude

FL2306184088 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpts] Sylvio Claude, leader of the PDCH [Haitian Christian Democratic Party], has said that he was expecting what happened, and that now he is waiting for the military to say exactly how long they are going to remain in power.

[Begin Claude recording] The PDCH's reaction is identical to that of the entire Haitian people, that is, to stand by and watch what is going on.

Let me explain. This means that everyone was expecting Manigat's departure. Clearly. Everyone wanted Manigat to leave office, because he was no good. [passage omitted] However, no one can be happy about the way it came about, despite the fact that this is what they were waiting for. There is nothing in this that's difficult for you to understand. It is clear. They did not get what they wanted.

I can want a man to leave, but I might want the house to be empty so I can enter it. He left. I didn't get what I wanted. What I did get is not to my advantage—or at least for the time being I don't see that it is to my advantage.

Thus, we are standing by, watching. We are not saying that what they did was either good or bad. We are watching to see what they are going to do next.

If they satisfy us—that is, if they give us back what they took from us on 29 November, what the Constitution ordered; if they do what the people want done, and if they restore the people's rights, saying, alright, we are

going to hold elections freely and you can choose whoever you want (?from among the opposition), we will applaud them. [passage omitted]

We would just like to know how long they intend to stay in power. That's all. [passage omitted]

I myself, personally, asked them barely 15 days ago over Radio Antilles Internationales to take some kind of action, to not allow the people to suffer. I said that since they had put their man in power, they should give the people a break and remove him.

But at the same time, we would like them to tell us how long they are going to take to give us the break we asked for.

We were happy to see what happened happen. But things are not clear. We don't know if we should be happy. We would like for them to tell us if it is for 1 month, 3 months, 5 months, or what.

Because it has been historically proven clearly that military governments cannot install democracy, even if they are of good faith. It isn't their fault. It's the nature of the profession. [end recording]

MODELH/PRDH Member

FL2306174788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Francois Latortue of MODELH/PRDH [Democratic Movement for the Liberation of Haiti/Democratic Revolutionary Party of Haiti] says it is too early to comment on the latest events in Haiti. He says MODELH is studying the situation.

Latortue thinks that a series of misunderstandings that developed brought about the coup. He also spoke of certain efforts the Manigat government had made to put the public administration in order.

[Begin recording] [Latortue, speaking in French] Well, it is too early to clearly determine the consequences and the causes of the latest events. The MODELH's Executive Committee is studying the matter, and we will make public our opinion at the appropriate time.

[Unidentified reporter] Does that mean you are waiting to see how things develop?

[Latortue, switching to Creole] Yes, how things unfold.

[Reporter] As a person who worked with the National Government Council and also with the Manigat government, can you tell us what, in your opinion, might have brought about this coup d'etat?

[Latortue] Well, the coup was due to misunderstandings that occurred and developed until they exploded. But these were of a rather personal nature, I would say. Everyone knows what the Army's stance is. It could

perhaps be called suspicious. Well, things reached the point where the president and the head of the Army found themselves diametrically opposed. And at that point, we had the kind of coup d'etat that is classic in Latin America every time there is a situation like that.

[Reporter] In your opinion, since you were one of the Central Bank's cadres, is Mr Manigat's statement in Santo Domingo that it was because he was combating corruption in the Army and in the public administration valid?

[Latortue] No, I was given the Central Bank position, but I was never installed. The statement that the true cause... [changes thought] We ourselves have not yet made an analysis permitting us to discover the true cause. There are diverse causes. It is true, I do know, as does everyone, in fact, that measures to fight contraband were taken. The Manigat administration also made efforts to employ, to the best of their ability, serious, competent, and honest people. But I cannot say whether or not this is the principal cause of the coup before making a detailed analysis of all the circumstances.

When things happen here, there are so many rumors that one often doesn't know what to believe. That is why one must make a systematic analysis of all the events in order to determine what the real cause of the coup was.

[Reporter] MODELH is a political party. Louis Eugene Athis is dead. You are the head of the MODELH. Are you going to continue to be the MODELH's leader? What prospects do you see for political parties under the military regime?

[Latortue] Well, all these matters must also be analyzed—the extent to which the military regime is going to leave enough freedom. They have not yet made a pronouncement on political parties.

Military regimes in Latin America often suspend political party activities, especially if the parties are not particularly favorable to the regime's objectives. We do not yet know what this government's attitude toward political parties is. Meanwhile, the party continues to exist. In fact, it has developed a little, by comparison to what it was before. Thus, so far MODELH is here, hanging in there. [end recording]

PSCH Leader Eugene

FL2306183188 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Excerpt] Haitian Social Christian Party [PSCH] leader Gregoire Eugene did not criticize Mr Manigat too harshly, but he said once again that he was more popular than Mr Manigat. And he said he did not see how the military were going to be able to run the public administration.

Mr Eugene said that although the military government has not yet said how long it intends to remain in power, he himself is still in the race. [passage omitted]

PUCH Leader Theodore

FL2306225888 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in Creole 2200 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] [Announcer, in French] Rene Theodore's Unified Party of Haitian Communists [PUCH], for its part, today came out in favor of the people choosing a people's government.

[Begin Theodore recording] After a big, unexpected war game on the night of 19 June, General Namphy entered the National Palace and declared himself president of a military government. Leslie Manigat fell, and not even a dog barked after him. The people's total indifference to the event once again shows how the Manigat government had no legitimacy whatsoever, since it came to power through farcical elections in which the people did not participate, did not have a role in choosing him. Thus, when the same Army that put Manigat in power removed him, everyone looked on the event with indifference.

Actually, there is a long-standing institutional crisis in Haiti, dating all the way back from 1964, when the presidency-for-life was instituted, to this day. This institutional crisis means that never, from that time to the present, has there been a government in power that the people trusted, because it has never been the Haitian people who put the government in power.

The work the provisional CNG [National Government Council] had before it on 7 February 1986 was, first of all, to install a legal government recognized by the people. What did it produce? It produced 29 November and 17 January for Manigat.

Today, a military government has gone right out and installed itself in Haiti. The people did not put this government into power either. The institutional crisis continues. The military government, all by itself, has not even given itself a deadline.

The institutional crisis requires a solution. The only solution lies in the participation of the people, in complete freedom, to put into power a government that corresponds with popular sovereignty.

And in connection with freedom, we here take formal notice of the fact that the military government has declared that it effected the coup d'etat in order to prevent a ferocious dictatorship and that it will respect the acquisitions of 7 February.

There is only one solution capable of resolving the contradictions and solving the problem of the institutionalization of Haiti: a government of the people. In order for this to occur, everyone must be able to express himself in total freedom. All political sectors must be allowed to participate in installing the mechanisms with which to resolve the institutional crisis. Only such a

policy can repair the provisional CNG's fiasco. This is also the only practical way to mobilize the people in order to effect the magical economic transformations needed for society to progress. It is the only solution that corresponds to the sacrifices made by the working masses, who have been struggling for such a long time against poverty, disdain, and exploitation so that society may progress along the road to freedom.

The PUCH remains open to dialogue with any and all sectors that may want to get together to find a solution to Haiti's political problems. [end recording]

Further on Dismissals of Workers at Flour Mill

FL2406013888 Port-au-Prince Radio Haiti-Inter in Creole 1600 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Two members of the Minoterie d'Haiti's [national flour mill] union will explain to us why the workers are on strike today.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] [Passage omitted] I can tell you that members of the military were distributing the letters [of dismissal] with rifles in hand. The director [James Cartwright] came in to work carrying an Uzi.

[Reporter] Did you see him with a weapon?

[Speaker] Yes. He came in with the weapon this morning. He even brandished the weapon over his head. He knows we'll never agree to work with him.

They pressured the men. We were out this morning. We went to the Ministry of Social Affairs. While we were out, they told the workers that if they didn't go in to work, they would be fired. It looks as if many of them buckled in to the pressure.

[Reporter] Are the workers still on strike today?

[Speaker] Yes, all day today. They have thus far not begun work. However, it appears that, out of fear, some of them are saying that tomorrow they will have to resign themselves to working, because they have been told that if they don't work they will be viewed as having quit. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Has the Ministry of Social Affairs said anything about the matter?

[Speaker] As usual, the Ministry of Social Affairs said that the state cannot be hauled into court. They cannot summon the state to appear. That's what (Desrosiers) told us. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] That is the situation at present at the Minoterie d'Haiti, where more than 90 workers have been fired. [passage omitted] [end recording]

PAN's Clouthier Comments on Elections

PA2306231888 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish
22 Jun 88 pp 1, 10

[Article by Juan Gerardo Reyes]

[Excerpt] Yesterday during an interview PAN [National Action Party] presidential candidate Manuel J. Clouthier said: "We have not only not lost the elections, but have already won them." He added that PAN is "furiously democratic," and he announced that the party's civic resistance will continue "without violence."

Entering the final stage of his political campaign for the Presidency of the republic, the PAN candidate told foreign correspondents: "I know I will participate in a fraudulent election, as Francisco J. Madero did in his time."

Yesterday, Clouthier was asked several questions over the telephone by several radio stations, all of which were aired. He also was interviewed by reporters from several local newspapers, the most important of which was held at the Foreign Correspondents Club, where he explained his platform and the actions his party will take in case an electoral fraud occurs.

At the beginning of the interview, he was asked about the possibility of his joining Cuauhtemoc Cardenas to protect the votes the two will receive in the election. Clouthier replied: "I will do everything necessary to join those Mexicans willing to struggle against this corrupt government by defending our votes."

The correspondents asked him several questions about violence. He said he had anticipated violent actions "6 months ago, such as those that occurred in Monclova and at the 20th Electoral District in Guadalajara."

He said further: We will not fall into the trap of violence. We will disobey and resist wrong instructions and orders. Our struggle will be political but "with reason and the people opposing any electoral fraud."

Clouthier again attacked the Mexican political system by saying: "We are struggling against Al Capone or somebody worse, but we will do everything possible to fill every blank in the ballots." [passage omitted]

New Chief of Police in Mexico City Named

PA2306212388 Mexico City XHTV Television
in Spanish 0200 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Federal District Governor Ramon Aguirre Velazquez has announced the designation of a new chief of police in Mexico City:

[Aguirre] "Brigadier General Jose Domingo Ramirez Garrido Abreu, member of the General Staff, has been called upon by the National Defense Secretariat to

assume new duties. To this effect, the general has presented his resignation from the post of general secretary of the Protection and Highway Service."

Aguirre Velazquez announced Gen Garrido Abreu's resignation at a ceremony attended by the political delegates of Mexico City; he thanked the general for his cooperation:

[Aguirre] "I must take advantage of this brief ceremony to thank my friend, Gen Garrido Abreu, for his efforts and dedication at the helm of one of the most difficult posts in Mexico City's government."

President Miguel de la Madrid designated Enrique Jackson, who had held the post of political delegate to Cuauhtemoc, as Gen Garrido Abreu's replacement:

[De la Madrid] "I am sure that Jackson Ramirez will find in this position a new opportunity to demonstrate his abilities and that he will overcome the challenges he will be faced with in the job he is assuming today."

Reportage on Fire at Pemex Depot in Monterrey

30 Missing

PA2406012488 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0018 GMT
24 Jun 88

[Text] Monterrey, Mexico 23 Jun (EFE)—Monterrey police and Red Cross sources have reported that 30 people are missing and 4 were seriously injured in the explosion of three gas tanks in Monterrey today.

The sources stated that 40 welders were working at the Pemex fuel depot and only 10 have been found.

The fuel depot is located in the San Rafael area, Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon State.

The four injured men have third-degree burns over 70 percent of their bodies.

The accident happened at 1545 (2245 GMT) [as received]. Police and Red Cross sources added that 300 explosions followed the first one.

Three Army battalions took control of the situation and helped evacuate over 100,000 people who live near the fire.

According to the same sources, the fire has not been controlled and it could spread to other storage areas.

A large part of Guadalupe has been left without electricity and telephones.

A few months ago, a similar accident took place in Chihuahua, capital of Chihuahua State, but there were no casualties.

A Pemex source in Mexico City told EFE that there is still no exact information on the fire. The sources stated the explosion took place at a fuel depot and not at a refinery as was first reported.

The sources added that there is no information in Mexico City on the number of casualties, and they even said there is no one missing, which contradicts the information provided by the Monterrey police and the Red Cross. Because of the nature of the accident, there is conflicting information regarding its causes and the number of casualties resulting from the explosions and the subsequent fire.

200,000 Evacuated

PA240604488 Mexico City XHTV Television
in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Report by Gilberto Marcos in Monterrey]

[Excerpts] [Marcos] This is a Dante inferno of flames and smoke caused by the explosions that occurred at 1250 at Pemex installations in San Rafael neighborhood, Guadalupe municipality, Nuevo Leon State. The fire spread death, panic, and hysteria among area residents. It began after two explosions were heard. The first mayday call was received at 1445. From that moment, 15 fire units gathered from San Nicolas, Garza Garcia, and Cadereyta; and they still remain. Police security agents and soldiers are also present. There are no exact figures on the number of people killed or injured. Unofficially, it was said that more than 20 people could have died; however, only 4 bodies have been counted.

It appears that over 200,000 people have been evacuated from that zone. The families live in 15 neighborhoods located around the installations where the blaze broke out this afternoon. According to unconfirmed reports, the evacuated zone was looted. Experts in extinguishing these kinds of fires are expected tonight from the city of Madero and Reynosa, Tamaulipas State; Veracruz State; and Tlaxcala, Oaxaca State.

Caritas in Monterrey announced that churches and chapels will remain open tonight and tomorrow to receive casualties. They will receive food and shelter there. Other casualties were taken to VIV [expansion unknown], civic centers, fire stations, care centers, the Apodaca governor's palace, and the main square in Nuevo Leon. Nuevo Leon State Governor Jorge Trevino went to the site of the blaze. He personally gave orders to provide aid to the casualties. The number of casualties has not been totaled. They are receiving medical attention in all the public and private hospitals in Monterrey and other neighboring municipalities.

According to a report, the tragedy was caused by sparks from a welding job that a Pemex contractor was doing in one of the fuel depots which had a diesel leak. Azael Sepulveda is now at the site of the tragedy.

[Sepulveda] Good evening, Gilberto. I am at San Rafael neighborhood, 300 meters where the burning fuel tanks are. At times, one can feel the heat as the shifting winds suddenly bring the flames closer. About 20 minutes ago, Jorge Vergara, regional commander of the Federal Highway Police, told us the fire had diminished 50 percent. He said the fires around the fuel tanks are already under control. [passage omitted]

The firemen told us one of the construction workers was welding a pipe with a blowtorch, apparently did not take the appropriate precautions, and the flame touched an oil pipeline, causing the results we are now watching. [passage omitted]

[Marcos] When the fire began, four Pemex fuel tanks in that neighborhood in Guadalupe municipality blew up. Three of the tanks had 1.6 million liters of diesel in each. The fourth tank had gasoline. [passage omitted]

Can you repeat the number of bodies recovered and the number of injured people taken to the hospitals?

[Sepulveda] The official figure on bodies is six so far. This is what authorities have said. There is no information on the number of injured. [passage omitted]

Honduras

Foreign Minister on D'Escoto Charges, Meeting
PA2306201988 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1700 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Today Honduran Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras said here that the United States and the USSR are supporting armed insurgency in Central America.

"There is a problem of foreign interference. The Soviets are deeply involved. The United States also has its interests. It is therefore not reasonable to expect the Honduran Government to resolve the problem of civil war in Nicaragua and El Salvador when the two insurgent groups are being supported by opposing superpowers," the foreign minister said.

Regarding charges made by his Nicaraguan counterpart, Miguel D'Escoto, who said here on Wednesday that Honduras is sabotaging the peace process in Central America and has ceded territory to the "contras" to allow them to operate in Nicaragua, Lopez Contreras said: "He came here on a high horse, with a very emotional style." The Honduran minister expressed his hope, however, that D'Escoto will moderate his tone. Lopez Contreras said he believes there is a possibility of reaching agreements with Nicaragua.

The two foreign ministers became involved in a heated discussion yesterday that prevented the Esquipulas II agreements Executive Commission from considering all items on the meeting's agenda. They were discussing the suit Nicaragua has filed with the International Court of Justice charging Honduras with allowing the Nicaraguan contras to use its territory.

Lopez Contreras said the purpose of such meetings is not to see who can be most eloquent or rhetorical but to find solutions acceptable to all interested parties, primarily those countries that are being torn apart by civil war, such as Nicaragua.

Nicaragua

Ortega on Canada Summit, Economy, Shultz Trip
PA2306232888 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
2020 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega at "Face the People" program at the Intercasa factory in Granada—live; broadcast in progress]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] We are carrying out an emergency operation on our economy, which is in grave condition because it depends not only on the will of the people and the government but also on external factors such as the Yankee aggression—the U.S. aggression—and the world's unjust economic order.

Seven rich industrialized countries recently met in Canada. Some of those countries proposed ways to improve the developing countries' situation and to give the countries of Latin America, Africa, and Asia a chance to develop.

The reaction of countries such as the United States—which was represented there by President Reagan—was to reject all policy proposals aimed at benefiting the developing countries. There were proposals concerning the developing countries' foreign debt. There were some well-intended proposals; however, they were rejected by the U.S. Government. Since the U.S. Government is an economic power, a world power, it has veto power. Veto power means that if everybody here says yes to something but someone with veto power says no, then it is no, regardless of what the majority says.

The United States has veto power because of its great economic and military strength, and it practically killed the proposals that some developed and industrialized countries made at the Canada meeting to find a way to improve economic relations with the developing countries.

What is the meaning of this? Not only low salaries such as those we have here but also unemployment in Latin America.

We must find partial solutions to these problems ourselves. According to what we have been told, there presently is good production at Intercasa, there is a good attitude toward work, and the work brigades are working. However, demand has dropped. Intercasa products have become more expensive because they are being sold at their real worth. The demand has dropped, and we would be gaining very little by increasing production if the storage areas are packed with barbed wire, nails, wires, etc.

We have to find a way to make these products available to producers. We have to make an effort to market these products domestically. Farmers need these products. [passage omitted]

As we have often said, the war is a factor that seriously affects our country's economy. Here there are over 200, rather, 220 workers. There are 220 workers. If this enterprise needs 220 workers to operate normally, it would be a success if the enterprise can keep those 220 workers, so those workers can continue increasing production with higher quality—not just quantity—and so the enterprise can sell its products; that is, can sell them on the market. Because of Nicaragua's difficult situation, if that happens it would be a success. This is because in other places an enterprise like this one would simply be closed. It closes and 220 workers are sent home. The enterprise is not profitable and it is closed. The 220 workers are out on the street. No one is going to tell them: Comrade, we will relocate you. No, the workers are simply put out into the street, and that is that. Once there, each worker will have to resolve his own problem.

Therefore, we must consider what keeping this enterprise working with a high amount of production and with obsolete machines proves. It proves the level of awareness of the workers of this enterprise. That is what it proves. It proves there is a high level of awareness. When speaking of awareness, we are talking about one of the strongest elements of the working class and the workers. We often talked of what place ideology and morality have in production.

Of course, the ideal thing would be for us to be able to balance those two factors. The political and ideological—that is, moral—factor is the awareness each man has that he must produce because it benefits the workers and benefits the other brothers engaged in various tasks. The ideal thing would be for the worker to also receive material stimulus through incentives, good wages, housing, and other things. [passage omitted]

An enterprise should give as many incentives as production allows, because if an enterprise gives out more incentives than production allows, it starts having losses. If an enterprise gives workers more food than it produces, it will have losses.

In addition, if an enterprise cannot distribute and sell its merchandise, it will also start having losses and it will reach a point when that enterprise, which kept pleasing its workers with incentives and food and kept fulfilling their demands, will tell its workers: Comrades, we must close the enterprise, because we are out of resources.

What happened in that case? Resources were poorly used, because incentives must be proportional to the enterprise's productivity, which is linked to the enterprise's ability to sell its products.

If you can place your products on the market and sell them quickly, you will have more resources to grant incentives. If this month you have delays in your sales, because you have to find new markets and new ways to sell your products, etc., you will not be able to have large incentives, despite the high levels of productivity and production you may have reached.

If the situation improves, next month you will have more incentives and the enterprise will have more resources to buy basic grains and some other staples to sell at the commissary.

Comrades, we must continue struggling. We must first of all resort to our own awareness. We must find support in our own awareness and ideology, which are the workers' strength. [passage omitted]

I tell you that right now we are defending revolutionary power because the United States is maintaining its policy of destroying the Nicaraguan revolution. We have always warned about the dangers that exist, even of a direct intervention of U.S. troops in Nicaragua. All our analysis at this time indicates that the U.S. Government

has not renounced [its intent to] destroy Nicaragua. It is even finding an excuse not only to get the U.S. Congress to approve funds to continue the war against Nicaragua, so the contras will continue to bring bloodshed to Nicaragua, but also to seek a pretext to invade Nicaragua. If they find a pretext to invade Nicaragua they will. Reagan is still bent on not leaving the White House with the Nicaraguan revolution intact. He wants to leave the White House taking the Nicaraguan revolution to the grave. That is his objective. He is working on that, although they have problems, because the contras are fighting over money and are divided.

The truth is that the U.S. Government still intends to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution. We have already pointed out that the U.S. secretary of state is going to tour Central America, except Nicaragua. He is going to visit Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica to conspire against Nicaragua. He is going to seek the support of those governments to justify the war against Nicaragua. We hope that the Central American rulers, signatories of the Esquipulas agreement, will simply respect their commitment to those agreements and tell Mr Shultz: Mr Shultz, we, the five Central American countries, have signed an agreement wherein we state that we are against any military solution, any foreign intervention, and in favor of a negotiated solution. This is what the Central American rulers that Mr Shultz is going to visit should tell him.

However, we know that great pressure will be exerted on certain Central American presidents for a statement that may be used by the Yankee government to justify its aggressive and terrorist policies against Nicaragua. Therefore, we cannot lower our guard, and this means we must remain in permanent and full combat readiness to counter the Yankee aggression in the military sector. It is true that we have dedicated, are dedicating, and will continue to dedicate a large part of our efforts toward solving the economic situation. However, this does not mean we have neglected the military defense of the revolution, because this is an integral part of us. Defending the revolution means being able to use our rifles to counter the Yankee aggression, being able to use our rifles to counter and defeat U.S. troops if Reagan ever decides to invade Nicaragua, and being able to use the means and instruments to increase our production despite the Nicaraguan economy's limitations.

Those are the two great tasks we must carry out to guarantee the overall defense of the revolution. We must defend it in the military and economic sector, increasing our productivity. In either case—meaning the military and economic sector—the most important thing is the men's conscience. A Sandinist soldier on the war front and a worker in Intercasa or any other enterprise in our country are worth more than any of the mercenaries working for the Yankee administration—even though they earn a lot of dollars paid by the CIA and even though the contras are well equipped. Sometimes the contras are better equipped than our fighters, but the

truth is that one of our fighters or an Intercasa worker is worth more than Pedro Chamorro, Calero, Bermudez, and all those criminals and delinquents. Money does not make a human being more valuable, and Pedro Chamorro, Calero, Bermudez, and those other criminals may have a lot of money and may be in very good material circumstances, but they have no conscience and they are not human beings.

In other words, they are not human beings; they are veritable beasts, as the Nicaraguan people classified them during the struggle against Somoza. They were beasts; they are beasts; and they will be beasts, because that is what they have proven by their actions. These are the values of the Nicaraguan revolution. [sentence as heard]

One Intercasa worker is worth more than the entire band, the entire club forming the CIA newspaper's Board of Directors. Those people are working for the CIA, getting paid by the CIA to harm Nicaraguan workers, to harm peace. The so-called managers and producers of COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] may be rich, and they may have good financial positions, but the Intercasa workers are worth much more, because those people are constantly conspiring against the interests of the workers, against the interests of the people. [passage omitted]

'Failure' of RN Plan To Release FSLN Prisoners
PA2306215888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2019 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The release of 66 Sandinist prisoners by the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN), which was scheduled to take place in Guatemala, "failed because the FSLN did not keep its word," contra representatives said in this capital today.

In a communique released today, the RN stated that the release of the war prisoners was scheduled for 20 June and that the Guatemalan Government had agreed to be a mediator.

For this reason, the communique added, the prisoners would be turned over to the Guatemalan authorities at La Aurora International Airport; however, it did not specify the place from where they would be coming from or the way in which the Nicaraguan Government would receive them.

The release of prisoners was "an agreement between the RN, the Guatemalan Government, and the FSLN within the spirit and letter of the Sapoa agreements and Esquipulas II," the communique stated.

However, "on the afternoon of 16 June, the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry told the RN that the Nicaraguan Government had advised that it would not receive the prisoners," the contra document stated.

It added: "As a result, the agreement is no longer in effect," according to explanations from the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry.

The RN, whose representatives in Guatemala are Edmundo Tefel and Fernando Sanchez, pointed out that this is why the agreement was not fulfilled, and it rejected "the Sandinist version because of its classic line of disinformation and untrue statements."

In Guatemala, this agreement had not been officially announced, and today all comments regarding the failure and its causes have been withheld, the RN reported.

Tinoco on 'Deep Crisis' in Contra Leadership
PA2406013888 Managua Domestic Service
in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, a member of the revolutionary government delegation that has held talks with the counterrevolution and the government's liaison between the two delegations, today told national and foreign journalists that the counterrevolutionaries have yet to answer the revolutionary government's proposal to hold a new round of talks on 26-29 June in Managua.

Tinoco also said there is no clear knowledge of the deep crisis within the counterrevolution. This crisis is caused by the division that has emerged in the last few hours as a result of the position of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Barrios and Azucena Ferrey, who, along with a group of so-called commanders, have decided to definitely disregard the authority of former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez and others of his faction. Therefore, Chamorro Barrios leads one group and is opposed by another group. This means that there are presently two factions in the mercenary leadership, which is naturally a serious problem for the continuation of the high-level talks that began on 21 March. That first round of talks came to be known as the Sapoa talks, which led to the 23 March Sapoa agreements.

Tinoco said he hopes the differences within the mercenary leadership will not cause major problems and prevent the meeting on the previously mentioned dates to achieve a firm and lasting peace in Nicaragua.

Further on 'Disagreement'
PA2406030088 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television
Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The disagreement in the counterrevolutionary elite increased in Miami today. As a prelude to future events, a new group, which demands the expulsion of former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez, was formed.

The new faction was formed 48 hours before a crucial meeting of the counterrevolutionary elite, during which internal reorganization will be discussed.

The new group is comprised of those leaders who were members of the counterrevolutionary high command 1 month ago. They were expelled by Bermudez when they demanded his dismissal for corruption and theft. Today, these former Bermudez allies presented new accusations of theft.

At a news conference, the counterrevolutionaries announced that the new group is called the Nationalist Alliance [Alianza Nacionalista].

[Speaker] "Leaders who do not agree with the struggle and who are fighting for other things have been imposed on us."

[Second speaker] "They are people who are in charge of buying food, paying for transportation, and a number of other things, which involve commissions they never reported to the troops, much less what they did with those commissions. According to us, Enrique Bermudez knows all about that."

"The contract that Bermudez signed with the CIA in 1982 states that to prevent the movement of weapons from Nicaragua to El Salvador, only 500 men had to be armed. This is what the contract says."

Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, who, according to rumors, will be expelled from the Directorate on Friday, appeared as the sponsor of the new counterrevolutionary faction.

[Chamorro] "This is an alliance of the commanders who were ignored during this process [not further identified]."

The new internal division in the contra movement comes at a time when the Reagan administration is trying to get new funds for Col Enrique Bermudez from the U.S. Congress.

Obando y Bravo Believes Talks To Continue
PA2306171888 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish
21 Jun 88 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] During an interview with LA PRENSA, Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo has said: "I received a copy of a letter that General Ortega sent to Alfredo Cesar proposing a meeting on 26, 27, 28, and 29 June, during the feast of St Peter. I believe it is not enough that one side establish dates; the two sides need to reach an agreement."

Cardinal Obando y Bravo, who is scheduled to meet this morning with the Managua archdiocese's Presbyterial Council, added that he believes the two sides involved in the armed conflict in Nicaragua will hold dialogues.

"They will hold dialogues. There will be conditions, but I believe the talks will continue. We must find the path of peace and calm for our long-suffering people," he said. [passage omitted]

CDN Urges Resumption of Government-RN Talks
PA2306223788 Managua Radio Corporacion
in Spanish 0400 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Communique issued by Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board (CDN) in Managua on 20 June—read by CDN leader Adan Fletes Valle]

[Text] The CDN—which comprises the political, trade union, and managerial sectors of the internal opposition—concerned over the failure to reach agreements between the government and the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] during the recent round of talks, states:

1. Once more, the Sandinist government has demonstrated its negative attitude toward holding a candid and honest dialogue with the RN to lead to a permanent cease-fire, which is an indispensable requirement to achieving the longed-for national peace.

2. In light of General Humberto Ortega's formal positions and statements, it is obvious that the Sandinist government seeks the RN's unconditional surrender since the government is not creating an adequate climate and not giving due consideration to the RN's proposal.

3. The CDN has demanded and continues to demand that the Sandinist government establish democracy in our country and create conditions required for a dialogue and national reconciliation. This implies that the FSLN must give up its totalitarian political system and its oppressive and unjust model of society. A turnaround, involving full basic and fundamental freedoms, is required to extricate our country from the economic chaos it is experiencing as a result of the unwise and oppressive policies the Sandinist government has imposed by force.

4. We believe the RN's proposal contains positive aspects, which have been supported by the internal opposition and which the government must take into consideration to attain an effective cease-fire and democracy in our country.

5. We are concerned, because the talks between the Nicaraguan Government and the RN are at a deadlock. Therefore, we urge the two sides to promptly resume the talks to agree on a cease-fire and achieve the country's democratization.

It is important that the two sides take into account that for the nation's interests, a prompt incorporation [ingreso] into an authentic institutional system is urgent. That means the government will responsibly fulfill the demands of the RN and the local, civic, and political forces to contribute fully to permanent peace and the

construction of a new order that will bring democracy, freedom, participation, and tranquillity to the Nicaraguan people, because justice commits us to do so.

[Signed] Nicaraguan Democratic Coordinating Board
Managua, 20 June 1988

Contras Report Truce Violations by EPS Units
PA2306233188 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish
21 Jun 88 p 5

[Military communique issued by the Nicaraguan Resistance's (RN) Southern Front Strategic Command—date and place not given]

[Text] The Southern Front Strategic Command hereby reports to the international public that EPS troops continue to break the truce that has been so widely publicized by the totalitarian regime in Managua.

Thus the Strategic General Staff [Estado Mayor Estrategico—EME] has reported from the Nicaraguan mountains, through its official military spokesman, that on 2 June, a company of the Juan Alberto Zelaya 2d Regional Unit led by Commander Arai repelled a surprise attack by an EPS patrol in the area known as El Gorrión, Central Zelaya, in the Rio Rama sector.

In the fighting, 11 members of the dictatorship's Army were either killed or injured. The fighting lasted 30 minutes and was directed by Comrade Vencedor.

For our part, we regret the loss of our comrade-in-arms Manuel Esteban Tellez Baez in combat.

Meanwhile, the Southern Front headquarters announces that on 6 June, the Luis Anastasio Palacios Company of the Jose Manuel Olivas Regional Command defended itself victoriously against a sneak attack by an EPS patrol at the place known as El Delirio, between Nueva Guinea and El Almendro, killing and injuring five enemy soldiers.

Commander Conejo, who directed the defense of his positions after the 1-hour skirmish, said his forces had not sustained any casualties and that Gallo, Jardin, and Peregrino had distinguished themselves in the battle.

Similarly, on 6 June, it was reported that the Pablo Cerro Company of the Jose Olivas Regional Command under Commander Conejo was forced to battle an EPS patrol in the place known as Cano Blanco, between Nueva Guinea and El Coral, leaving eight of the enemy killed or wounded. We had one person slightly injured. The skirmish, directed by Comrade Vibora, lasted 1 hour.

Southern Front Strategic General Staff

God, Fatherland, Freedom.

Communique on Visit by CSSR's Chnoupek
AU2306104588 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
20 Jun 88 p 6

[CTK correspondent's report: "Joint Communique From Managua"]

[Text] Managua—Bohuslav Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, ended his official 4-day visit to Nicaragua on Saturday and left for home.

On the eve of his departure Minister Chnoupek met with Rosario Murillo, general secretary of the Sandinist Association of Culture Officials, who briefed him on some aspects of the Sandinist government's cultural policy.

A joint communique was issued at the close of the visit to Nicaragua, stating, among other things:

During his visit the Czechoslovak minister was received by Daniel Ortega, president of the Republic of Nicaragua and coordinator of the Executive Commission of the National Command of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, to whom he presented greetings from the Czechoslovak party and state leadership. He was also received by other members of the FSLN National Command—Luis Carrion Cruz, minister of economy, industry, and trade; Henry Ruiz, minister of foreign cooperation; Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, minister of foreign affairs; and other Nicaraguan representatives.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere. The two sides expressed their readiness to continue deepening their fraternal and friendly relations and agreed that these relations have recently undergone considerable development. They confirmed the interest and political will to continue to cooperate in all spheres. They stressed the importance of a comprehensive development of political dialogue at all levels. The Czechoslovak side reiterated its readiness to continue to support the Republic of Nicaragua in developing its national economy and in overcoming the consequences of the U.S. economic and military aggression.

In assessing the situation in Central America the two sides expressed their concern about the tense situation in the region and stressed that it can only be solved by peaceful means, by excluding the policy of pressure and interference from abroad, and on the basis of the sovereign right of nations to freely choose the path of their development. They highly assessed the peace efforts of Contadora and its Support Group and the signing of the "Esquipulas II" agreements.

The Czechoslovak side highly commended the heroism of the Nicaraguan people who with immense courage and firm resolve defend the accomplishments of the Sandinist revolution. At the same time it condemned the U.S. Administration's interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs.

The Nicaraguan side voiced appreciation for the CSSR's high-principled foreign policy. It regards the initiative to establish a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between the Warsaw Pact and NATO member states, put forward by Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] Central Committee, as an important constructive contribution toward strengthening peace and security.

During the visit the two ministers of foreign affairs signed a consular agreement between the CSSR and the Republic of Nicaragua.

Panama

Ritter on Group of 8, Additional U.S. Forces
*PA2406031488 Paris AFP in Spanish 0218 GMT
24 Jun 88*

[Text] Panama City, 23 Jun (AFP)—Today Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said the decision regarding Panama's reentry into the Group of Eight "is in the hands" of that group's seven foreign ministers, who will meet this weekend in Mexico, because "the situation that led to Panama's suspension has ended."

"The situation 4 months ago was confusing, but now it has been clarified," Ritter told reporters. He was referring to Panama's exclusion in February from the Group of Eight (Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Uruguay, and Argentina) after the Panamanian Legislative Assembly dismissed President Eric Arturo Delvalle.

Moreover, Ritter noted that Panama "is doing its best" to help resolve the problems of neighboring countries "without meddling in the domestic affairs of another state."

In this regard, he reiterated the offer by General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, to mediate the release of Colombian Conservative leader Alvaro Gomez Hurtado. Gomez Hurtado is being held by the M-19.

Ritter also scored the arrival of 250 U.S. Marines on Wednesday. They arrived to reinforce the U.S. military forces stationed in the Panama Canal Zone. He said their arrival is "a new violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties."

Ritter stressed that the 1977 treaties do not authorize the presence of U.S. soldiers for purposes other than the protection and defense of the canal.

In addition, "it is a mistake to bring too many U.S. forces to Panama because that does not help at all to soothe a strife-torn area and [U.S.-Panamanian] relations, which are at a very low level," Ritter concluded.

This group of U.S. Marines joins the 1,700 who arrived in March "to provide logistical and administrative support" to approximately 10,000 soldiers stationed in the Southern Command along the banks of the Panama Canal.

Veracruz Peasants 'Tortured' by U.S. Soldiers
*PA2406035788 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
in Spanish 23 Jun 88 p 1*

[Article by Rogelio Martiz]

[Text] Poor peasants in the Veracruz area reported to the world today that U.S. soldiers, who are in Panama to attack its population, have humiliated, tortured, and mistreated them.

Bernardo Quintero Jimenez, a 40-year-old peasant, and a friend, whose last name is Bedoya, were unjustly arrested by several U.S. soldiers who thought they were terrorists.

The two peasants were taken to Howard Air Force Base where they were tortured through the use of all the repressive methods used by Americans.

Once they found out the peasants were not terrorists, they decided to set them free after telling them that next time they would be shot at without compassion.

Veracruz residents also reported that U.S. soldiers began intensive parachute practice today, thereby openly violating Panamanian airspace.

Also, 2d Lieutenant Julian Vergara, chief of the Veracruz police station, denied rumors that five U.S. soldiers have been arrested.

Arias Calderon Views Economic Prospects
*PA2306214788 Panama City Circuito RPC Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 88*

[Text] Today Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of Panama's Christian Democratic Party [PDC], said that the country's economic situation is more serious every day and that the government's finances cannot respond to the problem because the solution must be political:

[Begin Arias recording] For example, it has been said that during the 1st quarter of this year, the public debt was not serviced; neither principal nor interest were paid. Normally, Panamanians would say: Well done. However, what is the true result of not having paid either principal or interest? There is no capital income that could be used for public works, such as highways, or for electrification, to take electric power to the towns that most need it. There is no capital income to provide funds for the Agricultural Development Bank to make loans to farmers, because no principal or interest of the public debt was paid.

Along the same lines, almost 85 percent of the public investment budget for 1987 was not carried out. We all know that the investment budget is the key to a country's

economic activity. In addition, the report [not further identified] reveals that only 36 percent, compared to last year's budget total, will be used to purchase materials and supplies. This explains why the hospital situation is so dramatic and explains the shortage of school materials.

I believe we must all reconsider, because the Panamanian state's income is down to about 50 percent of what it was in 1987. In addition to what I have said, there continues to be talk of mass dismissals of government employees or of large reductions in their salaries.

What can be done? I believe we must realize that the result of this in the private and public sectors is caused by a political crisis, and this political crisis can only be solved with democratic changes. Now is the time to demand together those democratic changes. Let us not just talk about them; let us implement them so the economic disaster will not continue in our population, and especially so the workers of the private and public sectors can look at the future with a little bit of hope. [end recording]

Former Labor Minister Lee on Unemployment
PA2306223588 Panama City Circuito RPC Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Lecture by former Labor Minister Jorge Federico Lee at a construction industry forum on economic reactivation at the Hall of Arts and Sciences in Panama City; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] It is evident that the worst effect of the present economic and political crisis is its effect on employment. The most reliable estimates are that approximately 65,000 people who were employed prior to February 1988 are now unemployed. This is an increase of 42 percent over last year's level.

However, more serious than the number of unemployed is the type of unemployment we are facing. Before the crisis, the unemployed ranged between 15-24 years old, young people who were looking for their first jobs, people who did not have or do not have a direct responsibility to maintain a home. The 65,000 who have now become unemployed are people responsible for maintaining a home and have lost their source of income. [passage omitted]

Since there is no end in sight of the crisis, it is assumed that this unemployment spiral will continue until we find a definite solution to the political problem we are experiencing. [passage omitted]

At any moment, government revenue is going to decrease as a result of the economic recession to the point where, unless the state makes financial adjustments for its conduct, there will come a point of a massive decrease in jobs in the government sector.

Carlos Duque Nominated as PRD President
PA2306185688 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE
PANAMA in Spanish 23 Jun 88 pp A-1, A-2

[Text] Carlos Duque, who was nominated president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] last night, has asked for unity with the grass roots movement. He reasserted the PRD's alliance with the Panama Defense Forces in guiding the country's political process.

Duque asked for support from the mid-level cadres and rank and file of the party created by General Omar Torrijos. He also asked for the removal of the ambassador who "operates covertly."

The PRD leader was nominated at a local restaurant by Ernesto Perez Balladares, who described him as a brother and comrade in a slate that is made up of other outstanding fellow party members.

The other members of the slate are: Carlos Ozores, vice president; Darisnel Espino, secretary general; Pedro Pereira, first assistant secretary; and Gustavo Melgar, second assistant secretary.

According to Duque, "this proposal represents a consensus of all of the PRD's political forces." He added that it has resulted from discussions within the PRD, which is the majority party in the UNADE [National Democratic Union] government coalition.

Duque called for Panamanians to seek solutions among themselves "with our own aspirin," according to Torrijos' concept.

He asked the political opposition to act responsibly and maturely and not to look for solutions from the United States.

He also assumed responsibility, which he extended to the other members of the National Directorate, "for leading the party to victory" in the elections scheduled for May 1989.

After emphatically saying that we must forge ahead, Duque said the PRD is not simply a political party but "has the mission of changing Panama's society and ending colonialism forever."

He asked that Torrijists be taken into account and not sidelined. "We will only exclude the traitors, who will have no room in the party," he added.

PRD legislators and other well-known party leaders attended the event. Current PRD President Romulo Escobar Bethancourt sat at the main table.

A meeting of the PRD National Board was called for 9 July at 0930 at the Atlapa Convention Center to elect a new National Executive Committee and Political Commission, as well as to confirm the appointment of the national secretaries of the National Executive Committee.

Minister Denies Report on SELA Donations

PA2406043888 Panama City Circuito RPC Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Panamanian Education Minister Rolando Murgas Torraza has denied that there was Marxist literature in a rural school in Chiriqui Province.

[Begin Murgas recording] This is a totally groundless report. I think the news was misinterpreted or poorly handled by that news agency [not further identified]. SELA has not donated a single textbook. It has not donated magazines from any country. It is not true that textbooks and books donated by SELA were burned in a Panamanian school. This report means that a SELA donation arrived in Panama with stunning speed. We are now beginning to distribute and send to the provinces the donations we have received.

At a press conference held here, and I think several of you reporters were there, I said SELA had donated three things: notebooks, two kinds of pencils—with and without erasers—and chalk. We showed them to the news media. Logically, none of those notebooks or pencils or chalk have political connotations or carry legends referring to any country, no matter what country donated them. I think the report that people came out hopping mad to burn the SELA donation is, at the very least, groundless. The most serious thing is that the news is ill-intended. The worst part is that there are people going around spreading the report to confuse the Panamanian public. This country is being attacked in a dastardly manner. It is even more dastardly to lie and deceive the public saying that political textbooks from other countries are being donated—with all due respect to the textbooks that are used in other countries. [end recording]

Argentina

Supreme Court Dismisses Cases Against Officers *PY2306174788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish* 0004 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jun (TELAM)—The Supreme Court has decided that the Full Stop Law and Law of Due Obedience apply in the cases of several officers charged with violations of human rights during the de facto military regime. The cases against these officers will, therefore, be dismissed.

The Supreme Court, by a majority decision, ruled that the Full Stop Law applies in the cases against Brigadiers Hipolito Rafael Mariani, Cesar Miguel Comes, Brigade General Otto Carlos Paladino, Colonels Roberto Roualdes, Hector Humberto Gamen, Enrique Carlos Ferro, and Alberto Pedro Barda. The cases against these officers are thus dismissed.

The decision also benefits Lieutenant Colonels Jorge Raul Crespi, Franco Luque, Pedro Alberto Duran Saenz, and Luis Enrique Baraldini, as well as La Pampa Province police officers and security agents Jorge Nestor Maidana, Roberto Constantino, Roberto Fiorucci, Athos Reta, Nestor Cenizo, Omar Aguilera, Juan A. Garcia, Eduardo Ruffo, and Raul Guglielminetti.

The Supreme Court also confirmed Federal Court decisions which had rejected appeals of unconstitutionality filed by civilians affected by the application of the Law of Due Obedience in cases involving Carlos Alberto Rolon, Pedro Godoy, Julio Simon, Eduardo Angel Cruz, Osvaldo Forese, Antonio Guillermo Minicucci, Ignacio Minicucci, Carlos Reinhart, and Juan Antonio del Cerro.

This decision also benefits Colonel (Medical Corps) Julio Ricardo Esteves, and Colonel Roque Carlos Alberto Presti. The cases pending against these people are dismissed.

The Law of Due Obedience excuses members of the Armed Forces and security departments, of human rights violations, during the repression carried out by the military dictatorship, because it is assumed they could not disobey orders from their superiors.

The Supreme Court, on the other hand, confirmed lower court decisions that excluded Generals Jose Montes, Cesar Anibal Ferrero, Adolfo Sigwald, and Juan Bautista Sasiah from the benefits of this law. Excepting Gen Sigwald who is free at the disposal of the court, the other three generals remain in rigorous preventive detention, according to the lower court decision.

The Supreme Court rejected the appeal of General Jose Carlos Olivera Rovere's defense asking for acquittal. His trial will therefore continue, but the general is free at the disposal of the court.

The high court concluded by dismissing the case against the late paramilitary agent Anibal Gordon, in accordance with Article 59 of the Criminal Code.

All these rulings relate to cases of human rights violations in the First Army Corps. The only former members of this corps with cases pending in courts are former General Carlos Suarez Mason, and Gens Montes, Ferrero, Sigwald, Sasiah, and Olivera Rovere.

More Generals To Benefit *PY2306180888 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES* *HERALD in English 23 Jun 88 p 1*

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Retired General Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri was one of several former military chiefs to benefit yesterday from the Full Stop Law, following a Supreme Court ruling dropping a number of human rights violations charges filed before the Parana Federal Appeals Court.

The ruling also benefited retired Generals Juan Carlos Trimarco, Ramon Diaz Bessone and Abel Zapata, among others, because it cancelled the court summons that had been sent to them.

Court sources reported further that among those acquitted by the court ruling on Tuesday of human rights violations committed under the jurisdiction of the 1 Army Corps by virtue of due obedience, were former presidential bodyguard Raul Guglielminetti and Eduardo Ruffo, who was linked to the 1984 kidnapping of Guillermo Patricio Kelly and the illegal adoption of two children whose parents disappeared during the military government.

Budget Figures Released; Growth Forecast *PY2306224288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish* 2258 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jun (TELAM)—The 1988 budget forecasts that the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) will grow by a rate of 1.5 percent and prices (average of wholesale and retail) will increase 284 percent during 1988. It also forecasts that the going exchange rate will fluctuate at a similar rate to domestic prices and the commercial exchange rate will remain at the level of the real average for 1987.

The budget also establishes that in 1988 there will be an average increase of 7 percent over 1987 salaries for central administration employees. Special attention will be given to the sectors whose salaries failed to keep up with the inflation rate, such as teachers and public employees.

The budget indicates that the tariffs in 1988 will increase, on average, 7 percent over 1987. The prices which will be increased by the largest percentage are

railroad fares, and SEGBA [Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services], and ENTEL [National Telecommunications Enterprise] bills. Most of these prices, however, have already been increased.

The budget provides for a reduction of 18.06 percent in the repayment of the public debt, and 11.2-percent increase in the allotment for general administration, a 3.87-percent increase in defense spending, a 3.13-percent increase in security spending, a 7.58-percent increase in spending for the health sector, and an 8.16-percent increase in education expenditures.

The Economy Ministry allocation has been reduced by 19.39 percent, while expenditures of the social welfare sector and of the science and technology area will drop by 24.24 and 4.34 percents, respectively.

As in May, the budget foresees a deficit of 3.9 percent of the GNP [Gross National Product]; this figure is almost 50 percent of the total amount spent last year, owing to higher tax revenues and lower public spending. Of this deficit, 1.9 percent of the GNP will be financed with long-term foreign credits.

The allocations for the public sector, including compulsory savings, will reach 23.17 percent of the GNP, which means a 15.05 percent growth in real terms with respect to 1987.

The available resources (2.74 percent of the GNP) are larger because of the increased taxes on bank debits, which have grown by almost 150 percent, in relative terms. The resources are larger also because of the economic emergency financing—this includes compulsory savings—which have grown by 0.33 percent of the GNP, and because of the funds of the social security system, which grew by 1.39 percent of the GNP (the GNP has grown by 39.49 percent, in real terms).

The provinces will receive federal coparticipation funds and other specific allocations totaling 7.54 percent of the GNP (excluding royalties).

The total budget resources are 83,050,400,000,000 australs, a 7.21-percent increase with respect to last year's budget. Total spending will be 116,052,900,000,000 australs, 10.71 percent lower than last year.

Mendoza Trade Delegation To Travel to USSR
PY2306165788 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0431 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Mendoza, 23 Jun (TELAM)—Rodolfo Gabrielli, economy minister of Mendoza Province, who will head a provincial delegation to the USSR, said that the government considers this mission very important because it will ensure the continuation of the antihail operation for this year; this will encourage technological and industrial development, possibly opening a new market for Mendoza products.

The minister said that barter trade will be implemented by the mission; several samples of Mendoza products have been sent, and several businessmen will accompany the delegation to close deals.

We believe that we will be able to close significant deals, considering that Mendoza exports average \$80 million and we are currently speaking of starting deals worth nearly \$10 million.

Finally, Gabrielli said that the cost of the trip will be minimum for the province in relation to its commercial significance. The USSR will pay for 70 percent of the trip for the government officials and congressmen, while the province of Mendoza will pay 30 percent, which is equal to \$7,500.

Nigeria Interested in Buying Nuclear Plant
PY2306172788 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS
ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1542 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Jun (NA)—Argentina and Nigeria will hold talks on signing, in the next few months, a cooperation agreement that would allow, among other things, the sale of an experimental nuclear reactor to Nigeria.

Reliable diplomatic sources told NA that Nigerian Science and Technology Minister Emmanuel Emovon this week met with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to evaluate bilateral relations.

It was agreed on this occasion that the Nigerian foreign minister, who represents one of the most important sub-Saharan countries, will come to this country in 2 weeks to sign the Argentine-Nigerian agreement.

Emovon, who is making his first visit to Latin America, "was very impressed" by the development of the Argentine nuclear technology, said the source.

Minister Emovon, who is a prominent chemist in his country, visited the Bariloche nuclear plant, the INTA [National Institute of Agricultural-Livestock Technology], and the Ezeiza Pilot Plant for Reprocessing Fuel Elements.

Justicialists To Hold Primary Elections
PY2306174488 Buenos Aires Domestic Service
in Spanish 1600 23 Jun 88

[Excerpt] A court has just ruled that the primary elections of the Justicialist Party [PJ] will be held on 9 July. This was reported by PJ Menem faction representative Cesar Arias.

[Begin Arias recording] Let me read you the important part of the court decision. In response to what was agreed by the two interested parties, the judge has decided to establish the date of 9 July 1988 for the elections. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Province Considers Building Nuclear Plant
PY2306122188 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish
2352 GMT 22 Jun 88

[Text] San Luis, 22 Jun (DYN)—The government of San Luis Province today appointed Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, retired, a former president of the National Commission for Atomic Energy (CNEA), as an advisor to study the possibility of installing a nuclear plant at one of the artificial lakes in the province.

Upon arriving here, Castro Madero revealed that his first mission will be to study the possibility of installing a low-power nuclear plant at one of the artificial lakes of San Luis.

Castro Madero said: "A nuclear plant would give the province the ability to produce its own electricity; the province currently depends on the electricity of the National Energy Interconnection System."

Castro Madero criticized the current CNEA nuclear policy. He added that the CNEA plan established during his administration "is practically paralyzed."

San Luis Province currently gets electricity from the hydroelectric plants of Rio Tercero and Digue los Molinos of Cordoba Province.

According to government plans, the electrical system of San Luis Province will be connected to the high-tension system of Chocón by a line from Realico (La Pampa) to Fortuna in southern San Luis.

Governor Rodriguez Saa promised to "use every available means to get electricity to every part of the province."

San Luis does not have enough water resources to build a hydroelectric plant.

Brazil

Sarney Meets PLO's Faruq Qaddumi in Brasilia
PY2406005988 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese
2255 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] After his return from Minas Gerais, President Jose Sarney met today at the Planalto Palace with Faruq Qaddumi, chief of the PLO's Political Department. The PLO wants to open an embassy in Brazil.

President Sarney and the PLO representative held a 25-minute meeting during which President Sarney reasserted Brazil's position in favor of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories and the return of Palestinians to Palestine.

Sarney Praises Debt Rescheduling Accord
PY2406001588 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese
2200 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The president said that the foreign debt accord reached with the creditor banks is the best accord ever made by any country to adjust its accounts with private banks, especially—the president stressed—because Brazil managed to include some very important clauses in the accord, like the safeguard clause, which sets forth that the accord may be revised to accommodate any changes in the international financial situation.

[Begin Sarney recording] I believe that we have now overcome the crisis that has been with us since 1982, which is the foreign debt crisis. With this accord, we have reinserted our country into the international community. Foreign investment and savings can now be invested in Brazil to support our development. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Former Chief of Staff Reinstated Into Air Force
PY2306140488 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese
1000 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] Lieutenant Brigadier Paulo Roberto Camarinha, former Armed Forces chief of staff, has been reinstated into the Air Force active duty. He will return to work after a vacation. [passage indistinct]

EBN To Merge With Radiobroadcasting Company
PY2306141188 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese
1000 GMT 24 Jun 88

[By Lourival Macedo]

[Text] President Jose Sarney has signed a decree merging the Brazilian News Agency (EBN) and the Brazilian Radiobroadcasting Company (Radiobras). The new organization will be known as the Brazilian Communications Company, Inc. [Empresa Brasileira de Comunicacao S.A.]. Its acronym will continue to be Radiobras. The decree will be published in today's issue of the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

The merger of the two companies will be carried out by a single board consisting of a chairman, a radiobroadcasting superintendent, and a news or administrative superintendent.

President Jose Sarney has removed journalist Antonio Martins Vasconcellos from his position as chairman-director of the former Radiobras and appointed him chairman of the new Radiobras.

Vasconcellos was given 30 days to draft the new statutes, which will be submitted by Civilian Household Chief Ronaldo Costa Couto for President Sarney's approval.

Radiobras President Comments on Privatization
PY2306162788 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jun 88 p 21

[By Ariosto Teixeira]

[Text] Brasilia—During the last 10 days, Brasilia National FM and AM radio stations, part of Radiobras [Brazilian Radiobroadcasting Company] stations, have been repeatedly broadcasting a quote from President Jose Sarney's speech announcing the government's privatization campaign. At the end of the 30-second recording, an announcer, in a very serious and dramatic tone, makes an appeal to listen to the president and do as Radiobras is doing: privatize.

"I take everything the president says very seriously," Radiobras president Antonio Martins says. Martins is the only state enterprise president who is working 24 hours a day to sell off Radiobras' 37 radio and television stations. [sentence as published] He says: "My advice to the heads of other state enterprises is to go ahead and privatize their enterprises before they start failing."

Martins' record through the end of June shows that he has managed to sell on the open market, 11 FM radios, 2 AM stations (the Ipanema station of Rio de Janeiro, to be purchased by the Golden Cross, and Radio Nacional of Volta Redonda, which is now being offered to bidders), and Porto TV Channel 6, the purchase of which is being contested by three strong local firms.

According to Martins, the stations that the government is privatizing run persistent deficits, forcing Radiobras to ask for supplementary budget allocations every year to cover their losses. Radiobras plans to make 1 billion cruzados with the sale of these stations and end the year in the black, thanks to the reduction of its operational costs.

Martins recently told President Sarney that during the freeze on the URP [Price Reference Unit] Radiobras was paying its journalists salaries that were fully one-third lower than the average on the open market. Martins was congratulated. The president said: "This is very good. People should understand that the government is not a good place to shop for jobs."

Sarney had previously told his assistants that technocrats thinking of the treasury coffers as salvation for their enterprises are in for a surprise. According to government calculations, state enterprises' budgets will start "drying up" in August. But the government does not intend to help them out with supplementary allocations: "If a public enterprise has to close for lack of supplementary funds, we will let it close," Sarney warns.

The difficulties the government faces in carrying out its privatization plans come from the government itself. Radiobras intended to sell 12 FM stations, but faced two lawsuits suspending the bidding for the sale of Brasilia

National FM station: one, a writ of amparo filed by the Rector Office of Brasilia University (UB), and another signed by three professors of the same university.

The curious thing is that the UB, a foundation linked to the Education Ministry and therefore a government organ, filed the suit against the President of the Republic, under which Radiobras operates.

Stations considered of high social interest were left out of the privatization program. This is the case of Radio Nacional da Amazonia, with shortwave transmissions from Brasilia to the entire Amazon region, reaching some 6,000,000 people; the seven radio stations in various parts of the Amazon region with transmissions in tropical band widths (these stations are of main interest to the National Security Council and to those responsible for the implementation of the Calha Norte Project [establishing a border security zone] which is developed by the Council for the border areas); and Radio Nacional do Brasil, with transmissions to foreign countries in five different languages.

Fuel Prices Increase by Average 21.36 Percent
PY2306142588 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The National Oil Council has increased the price of fuel by an average of 21.36 percent. Gasoline now costs 113 cruzados per liter; fuel alcohol, 78 cruzados; and diesel fuel, 53.90 cruzados. Cooking gas now costs 507 cruzados [unit not received].

The new price reduces the difference between the price of gasoline and fuel alcohol by 4 percent. For 8 years, 1 liter of fuel alcohol has been 35 percent cheaper than 1 liter of gasoline.

According to Lourival Monaco, National Energy Commission under secretary, this increase will help reduce the deficit in the so-called Alcohol Account, which Petrobras has been paying for. Currently, the deficit amounts to 35.8 billion cruzados. [passage omitted]

Chile

Upcoming Plebiscite Causing Controversy

Minister Denounces Communists
PY2406031588 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez today stated that the Communist Party [PC] decision to support the no-vote campaign gives this option a totalitarian connotation of serious consequences.

Minister Fernandez made this statement while addressing the cabinet meeting held this morning at La Moneda Palace.

The meeting, headed by President Augusto Pinochet, was also attended by the ministers of state.

Referring to domestic order and security, Minister Fernandez noted that the government is constantly trying to prevent common crimes, violence, and terrorist actions. In this regard, he said there is concrete evidence that the extremist totalitarian purpose is to prevent the development of the institutional process and its successful conclusion.

Minister Secretary General of Government Sergio Poblete noted that the head of the cabinet has also referred to the opposition's situation during which he mentioned the Christian Democratic Party's inability to adopt a serious and responsible stance. He also warned about the participation of leftist elements in the campaign for the no-vote which is designed to undermine the grounds of modern democracy.

[Begin Poblete recording] From the interior minister's point of view, the opposition's situation has been worsened by the recent PC decision to support the no-vote campaign, to work for the no-vote, and to act jointly with those groups involved in this campaign. Thus, the position of the opposition is compromised and the no-option acquires a totalitarian connotation of serious consequences, which its supporters cannot deny by merely upholding democratic principles and objectives, especially when reality proves that they have acted together with the Marxist sectors. [end recording]

Communists Joining Campaign

PY2306222888 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] According to Communist youth leader (Guillermo Cherpi), communist youth are joining the committees working for the no-vote in the upcoming plebiscite.

[Begin (Cherpi) recording] From the moment our party made the decision to join the no-vote front, we directed the communist youth, and our friends and followers to immediately join all the existing grassroots committees promoting the no-vote. We have also called on the social organizations to assume this position themselves. We will do everything in our power to promote registration in the electoral offices, to defend the sovereign decision of our people, and to decisively drive for demonstrations demanding respect for our rights during the plebiscite. [end recording]

During the news conference on behalf of the communist youth (Guillermo Cherpi) was accompanied by Communist leaders Gonzalo Rovira, Miguel Gonzalez, Rosa Maria Eitel, and Claudia Alvarez. He (Cherpi) explained why he does not believe that they were too late in joining the no-vote front.

[Begin recording] I insist that we, the Communists, have never been late arriving anywhere. We made the decision when we thought it was appropriate. During the last few

months we have made people aware of the real meaning of the plebiscite, of the fraud it represents, because it was not clear until a few months ago. Today all those joining the no-vote front agree it is a fraud. They know there will be no guarantees, that Chilean political convictions will not be expressed through it.

We will register because we think millions will join the political life of the country and we want to contribute to the democratic cause and return the country to the democratic path. [end recording]

The Communist youth leaders concluded by saying they reject the militarization of politics.

No-Vote Group Founded

PY2406002388 Santiago ANALISIS in Spanish
13-19 Jun 88 pp 6-8

[Excerpt] A new socio-political group, the Social Accord for the No-Vote [Acuerdo Social for el no—ACUSO], was founded on 9 June.

More than 70 personalities of varied sectors got together to organize this group. On the occasion, they elected an executive board (formed by 26 social leaders), discussed their platform, and decided to begin activities in the field they are most familiar with: social mobilizations.

The idea initiated some time ago, almost simultaneously with the agreement reached on 12 February by the 17 (now 16) political parties to vote no. [passage omitted]

Rebel Group Denies 'Total War' on Government

PY2306150188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0246 GMT
23 Jun 88

[Text] Santiago, 22 Jun (EFE)—In a statement released to the media, the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] denied today having said that it is engaged in "total war" against General Augusto Pinochet's regime.

According to press reports issued last week in Havana, Sweden, and the FRG, FPMR spokesman Sergio Buschmann declared "total war" on the Chilean Government.

The FPMR is accused by the Chilean military regime, which has been in power since 11 September 1973, of being the armed branch of the outlawed PCCh.

The communique states that "the FPMR has never mentioned the concept of total war in any of its declarations or activities," adding that "all FPMR members will make an effort to prevent the perpetuation of the tyranny."

The FPMR also denies government charges that it attacked Armed Forces members; there is nothing of the sort," the FPMR states. The FPMR had claimed responsibility for the failed attack against President Pinochet on 7 September 1986.

The FPMR also denies having kidnapped last week a 16-year old boy, who after his release said that his abductors had warned the Carabineros "to watch out."

About 30 FPMR members are currently imprisoned on charges of participating in the failed attack against Pinochet, introducing clandestine arms caches, and other activities.

The local press had reported that the FPMR had split a few months ago, and that the Autonomous FPMR [FPMR—Autonomo] has appeared. This group openly favors a vanguard struggle and ignores the concept of popular rebellion, which favors more gradual action, and is advocated by the traditional FPMR.

Law Reducing VAT Takes Effect Today

*PY2306222988 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Jun 88*

[Excerpt] The OFFICIAL GAZETTE today published the text of Law No 18,720, which reduces the VAT [Value Added Tax] rate from 20 to 16 percent.

This law, initiated by the president of the Republic, will reduce the price of most consumption articles and the price of services such as electricity, gas, telephones, drinking water, and railroad fares.

The law goes into effect as of the day of its publication, today, as established in Article 2. [passage omitted]

MAPU Claims Attack on University Guard

*PY2306152988 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
1030 GMT 23 Jun 88*

[Text] Three unidentified individuals in a moving car yesterday attacked a doorman of the Metropolitan University. The victim is a 23-year-old guard, Marcos Iranejo Araya, who has been hospitalized in critical condition. The report says that the guard was standing at the main university door at 774 Macul Street, when he was shot from the moving car. He sustained bullet wounds in the back. He was taken immediately to the hospital, where he underwent surgery.

This attack was immediately denounced by various offices of the university. The Rector, Hector Herrera, stated that Communist extremists are desperate because of the tranquility at the schools. He said this university has operated normally over the past 6 months, except for sporadic demonstrations by groups of the extreme left, trying to prevent educational activities. However, they have encountered strong opposition from most students.

The university organizing committee has also denounced this attack, saying that the extremists are protected by Marxists who promote violence to disrupt normal university activities.

The armed branch of the United Popular Action Movement [MAPU] has claimed credit for the attack on the university doorkeeper. A telephone call to the press reported that the attack was perpetrated by the so-called MAPU Lautaro Popular Forces. The Lautaro group has also claimed responsibility for the murder of Carabinero Samuel Lillo on 12 April 1988.

Briefs

New Centrist Coalition Created

Four small parties, which call themselves centrists, have formed a new coalition within the opposition. According to available reports, the coalition includes the PADENA [National Democratic Party], headed by Luis Minchel; the Republican Liberal Party [Partido Liberal Republicano], headed by Armando Jaramillo; the Popular Socialist Union [USOPO], headed by Ramon Silva Ulloa; and the Social Democracy, headed by Eugenio Velasco. [Excerpt] [PY2306040488 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Jun 88]

Colombia

Government Considering Negotiations With M-19

*PA2406024188 Paris AFP in Spanish 0148 GMT
24 Jun 88*

[Excerpts] Bogota, 23 Jun (AFP)—Today the Colombian Government discussed the possibility of negotiating with the leftist M-19 guerrillas in order to obtain Conservative leader Alvaro Gomez Hurtado's freedom, but warned that it will grant no concessions that undermine its institutions or the Constitution.

The statement was issued by Government (Interior) Minister Cesar Gaviria after a long meeting with President Virgilio Barco and the government party's National Directorate to analyze the proposal issued by the guerrilla group, which is holding the Conservative Party leader.

Gaviria's statement is the government's first formal statement since it learned that the M-19 was responsible for Gomez' kidnapping on 29 May.

Following the kidnapping, when the identity of the controversial opposition leader's kidnappers was still unknown, Gaviria had announced that Barco's government was not willing to negotiate to free the hostage. [passage omitted]

"We expect the kidnappers will respect Gomez' life, and they will obviously understand that we can, at any given time, make certain concessions. However, that does not mean we will neglect the defense of our Constitution, laws, and principles which have formed the Colombian nation," Gaviria emphasized to reporters.

The minister added that the government can "make certain concessions, but these cannot undermine the respect that we owe to the Constitution and our obligation to defend our principles."

Asked if his statement meant the government is willing to negotiate for Gomez' release, the minister stated: "We cannot work based on demands that we have yet to see." [passage omitted]

M-19 Comments on Gomez

PA2306231688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2101 GMT
23 Jun 88

[Text] Bogota, 23 Jun (EFE)—Otty Patino, an M-19 guerrilla leader, said during an interview with German Castro Caicedo, which was published in all Colombian newspapers, that Alvaro Gomez Hurtado, the former presidential candidate who was kidnapped by the rebel movement, reads a lot, writes, paints, and draws. In addition, he talks frequently with his captors, to whom he teaches economics. Last night the government forbade Castro to air this interview on television.

According to Patino, Gomez "talks a lot with the companeros who guard him. He wants to know us, what we think. Gomez teaches them what he knows about economics, in a sort of class."

"In this difficult situation, we have tried not to disrupt his habits, such as bathing and dressing. We have even tried to cook his favorite meals sometimes."

Patino added: "We try to keep him constantly supplied with books because he seems to have a tremendous hunger for them. We make every effort to please him in small ways, as much as possible. Of course, we give him whatever papers are available, although this is sometimes impossible."

Patino said Gomez, 69, will be released when the country leaders agree to a "national dialogue" leading to a peace agreement. He also said no mediator will be accepted because "Gomez is a prisoner of war."

The guerrilla leader, third in the M-19 command, said during the interview that Gomez devotes considerable time to painting and drawing, mainly his own hands.

"He was told that, because he is a painter, he could choose whatever technique he desired, so we could bring the necessary materials. He selected charcoal and watercolor. He has very good brushes. The companeros who bought them were alarmed at the prices of the brushes and some very fine watercolors. Anyway, we had to put up with it."

Patino asserted that Gomez eats well and gets proper medical attention. "The doctor's report is favorable. He says Gomez is in excellent shape. I did not know, among other things, that he is more than 60 years old. He certainly does not look that old. His physique is uncommon."

Patino also said: "Gomez was a little restive at first, but he quieted down when he learned we were from the M-19."

"Almost as soon as we told him we were from the M-19, he replied: 'Ah, well, you people are very professional.'"

During his interview with Castro Caicedo, Patino said the M-19 "will do everything to preserve Gomez' life, but the outcome will depend on his behavior and the general situation."

The guerrilla leader finally said: "A state of war does not necessarily entail a death sentence for Gomez."

Retired Gen Pena Rios on Fighting Rebels

PA2306144688 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
12 Jun 88 pp 1-B, 4-B

[Interview with Retired General Rafael Pena Rios, former commander of the 12th Brigade in Caqueta, by Plinio Apuleyo Mendoza—date and place not given]

[Text] [Apuleyo] Are we at war, General?

[Pena Rios] Yes, we are.

[Apuleyo] What is going on? Why has there not been an effective military response to the armed insurrection?

[Pena Rios] Guerrillas require three kinds of support to develop: one is political, another is social, and the third one is economic. At this time they have them all. They obtained the political support, which they lacked, after the peace agreements. Some movements appeared, which did not mean the return of the guerrillas to legal life but simply their infiltration of the political system, not openly but camouflaged. Each guerrilla organization has its own political movement, which in some cases are large and in others, small movements.

[Apuleyo] Do you not believe that those political groups are one thing and the guerrillas are another? Confusing those two concepts is dangerous. Many crimes have been committed just because the UP [Patriotic Union] and the FARC have been identified with each other.

[Pena Rios] The violence of the so-called paramilitary groups comes from the clear relationship between a political and a guerrilla group. The violence would not have occurred if, from the beginning, the former had been made responsible in the agreements for whatever the latter does, if one agrees that the two groups are two branches of the same cause. What should not have been allowed is that one of the groups continues with the war while the other acts openly as if it had nothing to do with the other.

[Apuleyo] Are you sure they are acting jointly?

[Pena Rios] Of course. They can be seen as different organizations in Bogota, but not in the countryside. There, political supporters fulfill the role of accusers. If they see a peasant talking to a corporal, even if it is a casual conversation that has nothing to do with the guerrillas, they accuse the peasant. The guerrillas kill the peasant as a "warning." Sooner or later, there is a reprisal against the political supporter. I do not approve of that. I am simply confirming it.

[Apuleyo] What do you think should be done with the political group? To make it illegal would be to take a dictatorial attitude, which is unacceptable in a democracy.

[Pena Rios] In the same way the government has to respond in the political arena for whatever its armed forces do, the political group should be held responsible for whatever the guerrilla group linked to the political group does. Actions should be taken based on this reality.

[Apuleyo] What is the guerrillas' social support?

[Pena Rios] They get it from peasants in many regions. This does not occur because peasants like the guerrillas, as some people believe, but because of intimidation or fear. Peasants know a military patrol will not kill them. They know that if they do not carry out the orders of a guerrilla commander, however, that will mean risking their lives. Guerrilla orders therefore are strictly followed. Peasant marches are carried out through intimidation in those regions where the guerrillas and their political supporters are strong and where they are present. Whoever does not respond to the call is suspicious. Later on, that individual is found dead. Thus, no one will refuse to participate in the next march.

[Apuleyo] I will not ask you about the economic support. It is well known: attacks, war taxes, extortion, kidnappings, cocaine, etc. What are the guerrillas' plans in the short and medium term?

[Pena Rios] For the time being, the economic effect is to block the country's economic sources, especially oil production. Actions against peasants also seek to disrupt agricultural production. The guerrillas' infiltration of various social movements, which are manipulated to further the guerrillas' political interests, is significant.

[Apuleyo] And in the longer term?

[Pena Rios] The guerrillas want to have total control of one part of the country. Everything revolves around this intention. As there are two Vietnams and two Koreas, there can be a Colombia divided in two. It seems unreal saying it like this, but that is the plan.

[Apuleyo] Is the unity among guerrilla groups effective?

[Pena Rios] As it stands now, the guerrilla groups have lost a large part of their own identities in favor of the joint organization, the Guerrilla Coordinating Board. In a certain region, FARC forces act under ELN [Army of National Liberation] authorization to avoid jeopardizing the agreements. The guerrilla actions are perfectly coordinated, and they divide responsibility for attacks among their groups. FARC attacks oil wells in Middle Magdalena, the ELN manipulates peasants...

[Apuleyo] Do you believe the escalation of armed confrontations during the recent presidential tour was part of a plan?

[Pena Rios] A perfectly timed plan, yes. It began with the Amnesty International publications and then with the European tour of various extreme left political leaders, who picked up where the publications left off. The plan went on with peasant demonstrations and continued with attacks on oil wells and pipelines. Bridges, banks, and stores were blown up. Officers and soldiers were shot at by units that infiltrated marches. Gomez Hurtado's kidnapping was the culmination of the plan.

[Apuleyo] The abduction too?

[Pena Rios] Of course. It is a destabilization operation. Nothing causes more impact than the abduction of an important political leader. It could have been any other political leader.

[Apuleyo] Was the abduction another well-planned operation?

[Pena Rios] It was planned well in advance. It was planned 2 or 3 months earlier. Gomez' abduction was not an overnight operation. Everything had to be planned. All means of escape had to be studied, cars had to be stolen, explosive devices to blow up the vehicles at the appointed time had to be obtained, the hiding place had to be chosen, the follow-up had to be planned, etc. It was an intelligence operation planned for several weeks and with the contribution of many people. And the Army did not have the slightest suspicion of what was going on.

[Apuleyo] How do you explain that?

[Pena Rios] Because there are no intelligence services, which are the great weapon against kidnapping and subversion. There are no such services not only because of the lack of experts and preparation in this basic weapon of struggle, but mainly because there is no law allowing the existence of those services. Telephone taps, which are a common activity in other countries, are illegal here. A person can go to jail for that. There is no money for soldiers' boots, much less to acquire sophisticated equipment, cameras, and equipment for fingerprint identification.

[Apuleyo] So you are saying the guerrilla intelligence services work better?

[Rios Pena] Of course. They have methods; we do not.

[Apuleyo] But what about the department the government calls an intelligence service?

[Pena Rios] It is an information service. Its usual source is the press and what the people say here and there. But information obtained through sophisticated technical means, the ones that supply real elements for analysis and clues, does not exist. In the countryside, the Army's strategy is its presence. That does not solve anything. Because there is no intelligence, one does not know who is a peasant and who is an infiltrator, or who works for the guerrillas and who does not.

[Apuleyo] Some years ago, the Army had more initiative: It confronted the guerrillas, it defeated them, it prevented landings, and it recovered stolen weapons. None of that is seen today. What is going on?

[Pena Rios] The Army lost its fighting ability, and it lost it because it was taken away from it. It was taken away the moment that the military courts were deprived of their functions to try crimes against the public order, the moment that its commanders began to be accused, and the moment when its action was hindered. The Army lost the state's political protection. I tell you: Ask the attorney general and the defense minister: Who is investigating the deaths of soldiers? No one. On the other hand, there are many deaths that are blamed on us and upon which the attention of dozens of investigators is centered.

[Apuleyo] Have there not been charges of abuses by some officers?

[Pena Rios] I am not opposed to having an officer tried if he is guilty of a crime. The Armed Forces cannot be surrounded by allegations, however.

[Apuleyo] Is that the reason why the Armed Forces' response to subversion is not very effective?

[Pena Rios] Only in part, because in reality the basic problem is that the Army is not being used as a military force. It is being used as a preventive force or as a civilian force. It is not even used as a police force, because the police have more powers. A simple interrogation by a military authority is not admissible in court. The Army is not a force of repression, as it should be.

[Apuleyo] Repression is a word that has a negative connotation...

[Pena Rios] In the face of subversion, the Army's function is to repress. Today, however, it cannot shoot before it is fired upon. The Statute in Defense of Democracy was left without any backbone when the court invalidated a provision permitting the Armed Forces to carry out searches. Our reports and evidence are worthless.

[Apuleyo] Why?

[Pena Rios] Because they are reports we receive from people who want to help us but who do not want to get involved. This is natural: Their lives would be endangered if they sat before a judge, gave their name and identification card number, and signed a statement. Those reports that sometimes identify individuals responsible for murders or kidnappings are therefore not legal evidence.

[Apuleyo] The evidence is not taken into account either?

[Pena Rios] Let us say there is an ambush: We respond, the subversives flee, and we pursue them. Two of them, seeing they are about to be caught, throw their weapons into a swamp and surrender. Their lives are respected, and they are arrested and taken before a judge. The judge frees them because they deny any participation in the attack. It happens every day.

[Apuleyo] The military testimony is proof?

[Pena Rios] It is not proof. The case of the FARC agent arrested with 12 police uniforms in his suitcase is well known. He was released because it is only illegal to wear military uniforms; carrying them in a suitcase is not illegal.

[Apuleyo] What is needed, General?

[Pena Rios] More authority for the Army. We are not asking for a license to kill but one to arrest, search, and hold a prisoner for 8 or 10 days and to question him. The information that is obtained should be admissible in court. The informant who wants to help us should only have to provide his fingerprints. That is an elementary measure, because the people are afraid of reprisals.

[Apuleyo] What do the Armed Forces lack? Do they have the necessary equipment for the struggle against the guerrillas?

[Pena Rios] They do not have enough helicopters. They lack light weapons. The soldiers do not even have enough boots.

[Apuleyo] Why not?

[Pena Rios] When a soldier joins the force, he is issued a pair of boots, two summer uniforms, and a camouflage uniform. This issue was established for peacetime, not for war. Sometimes the soldiers have to be in the field for a long time. They arrive with their uniforms and boots destroyed, and there is no way to replace them. If they have no boots, they have to be content with tennis shoes. The soldiers lack everything. Sometimes they sleep in corridors or outside because of a lack of space. Rations are inadequate, so they have to carry raw food to be cooked in the bush. This makes them vulnerable. It weakens them.

[Apuleyo] And military equipment?

[Pena Rios] Insufficient compared with what the subversives have.

[Apuleyo] Really?

[Pena Rios] Really. The guerrillas are very well equipped. Their weapons are new and very, very good, capable of downing helicopters. The guerrillas carry their field equipment wrapped in plastic. Their camps are sophisticated. They even have televisions and Betamax videorecorders. They have twice as much ammunition as we do. The guerrilla commanders have a lot of money. They purchase everything from the peasants. They pay more than the prices peasants can get in the towns. Usually, in their areas of operation, they allow only people who are friendly toward them, who support and encourage them, and who give them information. Anyone who does not act like that is wiped out—killed.

[Apuleyo] And what is the relationship between the troops and the peasant population?

[Pena Rios] The Army is not a permanent presence; the guerrillas are. The soldiers are passing through and do not have the means to purchase what they need. They are poor. The subversives have the money. Money and intimidation: two formidable weapons.

[Apuleyo] Does this mean the recruit is less effective than the guerrilla?

[Pena Rios] Militarily, he is less professional. Up to a short time ago, when a soldier was discharged after 18 months of duty he would have only some 2,000 pesos to buy his civilian clothing. Do you know what happens? Often, when the soldier leaves the Army without clothing, work, or money, he is recruited by the subversives.

[Apuleyo] A poor army against a rich army, is that it?

[Pena Rios] Ours is a helpless army.

[Apuleyo] Why is it always the guerrillas who ambush the Army troops and not the other way around?

[Pena Rios] Because we only go to areas to make our presence felt. Until the guerrillas attack us, we cannot act. They must fire first before we can respond. We arrive in an area peacefully and unaware. They ambush us. Only then, when we are under fire, can we use our weapons.

[Apuleyo] Do you believe that there is a political solution to the problem of subversion?

[Pena Rios] No, I do not. Those groups have a subversive goal, which is to take power by force of arms to change a system and a society. It is not insurgency; it is subversion. We, however, confuse the two concepts and develop erroneous policies. Insurgency is generated by political, economic, and social problems. When those problems disappear, the insurgency also disappears. If

new political opportunities are opened or reforms are made, the insurgency loses its reason for existence. Subversion does not. Subversives agree to negotiate for purely tactical reasons, to strengthen themselves, but they do not abandon their goal.

[Apuleyo] Does this mean that you do not believe in rehabilitation?

[Pena Rios] Not in the way it is being pursued, without any relationship to our actions. It is something that should be done after the war, not during it. Some politicians here say there should be a dialogue with the guerrillas. They are people who have already accepted defeat and are seeking to win, either for electoral reasons or for their own protection, the favor of the guerrillas or their political groups in certain regions.

[Apuleyo] General, how can we better defend our country?

[Pena Rios] We must acknowledge that there are not enough troops to protect all 1,000 municipalities. In addition, civilian support of the police is not allowed, because it is illegal. It is felt that to give such support is tantamount to arming self-defense or paramilitary groups. We forget we are in a state of war. The FARC has 40 fronts, each front has 10 companies, and each company has 4 or 5 guerrilla groups. The Army lacks resources, and when it has resources, it does not use them. The Army does not bomb guerrilla camps for fear of the legal consequences. It has to request the president's permission, and the president does not give it. There are major legal obstacles. The Army prefers to be shot at and killed than run the risk of being brought to trial.

[Apuleyo] Then what can be done?

[Pena Rios] A comprehensive solution must be found. On the one hand, the problem requires a military solution. A solution at this level must make use of the necessary legal and technical means. Care should be exercised, however, to deal with the economic and social dimensions of the problem so as to dismantle the guerrillas' support base.

[Apuleyo] How can the guerrillas be defeated militarily? Is it possible to defeat the guerrillas within the institutional framework of a democratic regime without becoming a dictatorship, which those of us who believe in democracy—the vast majority—reject?

[Pena Rios] It is feasible. The entire country must take a firm stand, however, and treat subversion as an adversary or as an enemy who must be defeated. All institutions and levels of society must take part in this fight. The Supreme Court of Justice must take into account reasons of state—that is, the fact that the country is in grave danger—and not concern itself with abstract legal considerations. If there is commitment on the part of the government, political parties, the Supreme Court, the judiciary, and the Congress, then the Armed Forces will have the will to fight and win.

[Apuleyo] Do the Armed Forces lack that will?

[Pena Rios] They do, because they have no support. Many officers say: Why die for those who put us on trial, with no consideration for the fact that we are the ones who are getting killed?"

[Apuleyo] General, the people are well aware of this fact. They are unwilling to put up with a dirty war, however. The people do not want anyone to be tortured or to disappear. There have been complaints linking the Army, or certain officers, to those activities. For someone who believes in democracy, those practices are abhorrent.

[Pena Rios] The dirty war exists, but the Army is not involved in it. It is the initiative of private individuals, resulting partly from omissions or weakness on the part of the state and partly from the pain and sorrow caused by the subversives. A strong state makes a dirty war unnecessary.

[Apuleyo] What do you regard as a strong state?

[Pena Rios] A state that provides the means for action. There must be legislation supporting our operations. There must be legislation to allow the Army's evidence to be admitted in court. There must be the possibility of taking special measures restricting personal freedom under certain circumstances. I am not talking about arbitrary measures or despotism. I am referring to an institutional framework appropriate to a country in a state of war.

[Apuleyo] If this does not come about, what will happen?

[Pena Rios] A very serious power vacuum. There would be no one to provide an alternative to subversion: neither the political parties, nor the church, nor even, as some have thought, the Armed Forces. There would only be subversion: That is the only organized force with a specific goal.

[Apuleyo] Very well, General. If there is the will to do it, can the guerrilla forces be defeated militarily?

[Pena Rios] Yes, they can be defeated. The guerrilla forces total 20,000 men, and we are 30 million.

Parties To Meet With 'Social, Political Forces'
PA2406004388 Bogota Invision Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] The presidents of the Liberal, Social Conservative, and Patriotic Union directorates have announced they will meet with spokesmen from all the country's social and political forces to seek ways to achieve peace.

The presidents of the three Colombian political parties agreed to join forces to strengthen democracy. They said it is urgent to restore public order throughout the nation. Rodrigo Marin Bernal, president of the Social Conservative National Directorate, made the following statement:

[Begin Bernal recording] The political parties will soon be meeting with spokesmen from the social and political forces that make up the Colombian community who, because of their representativeness, are capable of contributing to the success of the initial process. The parties will take these criteria and concepts into consideration to fully develop the task they have taken on. [end recording]

The proposals will be revealed prior to 20 July.

Venezuela

Argentine Foreign Minister Arrives 22 June
PA2306151888 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun

[Report by Maria Teresa Gutierrez]

[Text] Today Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo arrived in Venezuela for a 2-day official visit. He will meet with Venezuelan President Dr Jaime Lusinchi and with the presidential candidates.

The distinguished visitor arrived in the country in the early afternoon and was received at Simon Bolivar International Airport by Venezuelan Foreign Minister German Nava Carrillo, the Argentine ambassador to Venezuela, and diplomatic officials.

Caputo spoke to reporters at the airport. He said that his country condemned the Haitian political situation and that this will be discussed at the upcoming Group of Eight meeting in Mexico this weekend. As for the Malvinas Islands situation, Caputo said that the diplomatic struggle continues but that the situation remains the same due to the British position. He also referred to the contacts and meetings he will be making in Venezuela:

[Begin Caputo recording] Our visit is mainly to talk with the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry and with the foreign minister. This is our primary task. We have a busy agenda and will report on this at the end of the meeting. Following that, I will have the honor of visiting the president and, later, all the presidential candidates. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo will remain in Venezuela until Friday, when he will leave for Mexico to attend the Group of Eight meeting, a preliminary meeting to discuss the presidential summit that will take place in Uruguay.

Suspension of Oil Negotiations With Haiti
PA2406042088 Paris AFP in Spanish 2100 GMT
23 Jun 88

[Text] Caracas, 23 Jun (AFP)—A Venezuelan Energy and Mines Ministry source reported to AFP that following the coup by General Henri Namphy, Venezuela has suspended negotiations with Haiti to grant credit on the oil Venezuela supplies to Haiti.

However, the source added, fuel sales to Haiti—some 7,000 barrels a day—by the state enterprise Maraven [a subsidiary of Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc.] will continue in the usual market conditions.

"Venezuela has always been emphatically opposed to the political use of the oil trade," the government official said.

However, Venezuela suspended the negotiations it had been holding with the government of ousted President Leslie Manigat to grant facilities to Haiti similar to those granted by the San Jose Agreement.

Through the San Jose Agreement, Mexico and Venezuela share the supply of oil to the six Central American countries, Barbados, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic, financing 20 percent of the bill as a "soft" credit.

Venezuela had been negotiating a bilateral agreement with the Manigat regime to supply oil under similar conditions, but decided to suspend it after the coup. The Venezuelan Government, which repudiated the coup, also ordered the withdrawal of military teams working in housing construction in Haiti.

Agreement With Colombia on Border Crime

PA2406005888 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Report by Ricardo Matheus]

[Text] Today important agreements to establish methods to fight crime on the Colombian-Venezuelan border were signed by Venezuelan Defense Minister Eliodoro Guerrero Gomez and his Colombian counterpart, General Rafael Samudio Molina.

The meeting between Gens Guerrero Gomez and Samudio Molina was held at the Mechanized Command No 5 in Cucuta, Colombia. The two countries' Armed Forces chiefs were accompanied by their general staffs to make final decisions after completing a conscientious study of the situation that exists on the Colombian-Venezuelan border.

In the framework of this meeting, it was agreed to strengthen the antisubversive actions carried out on both sides of the border, expand the exchange of information and actions directed at preventing and repressing the kidnapping of people living along the border, preventing all support for the subversive and terrorist groups, and

undertaking joint efforts to fight the clandestine arms traffic that might strengthen the criminal ability of the subversives, narcotics traffickers, or common criminals.

[Begin Guerrero Gomez recording] We believe these operations being initiated at the border contain two basic elements that will improve the results. One of them is the joint operations of both countries' Armed Forces, while respecting each other's sovereignty. The other is the opportune exchange of information through efficient communications systems so the information reaches the units on both sides of the border that have the responsibility to combat crime. [end recording]

At the end of the meeting, the Venezuelan and Colombian defense ministers signed important agreements to fight narcotics, arms trafficking, and cattle rustling.

Reports of Guyanese Concessions Investigated

PA2406005588 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Canal 8 in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry's position regarding reports of Guyana's allegedly granting concessions for the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons is based upon the fact that relations between Venezuela and Guayana are based upon understanding, respect, and mutual cooperation.

This position is expressed in a Foreign Ministry communique that explains that the Foreign Ministry immediately established contacts to confirm information regarding the nature, location, and scope of the concessions. The Foreign Ministry specifically referred to news agency reports that the concessions are located in the maritime areas adjacent to the coasts of the Essequibo region. In this regard, the communique states that the information obtained from the Guyanese Government regarding the location of the concessions does not compare with the published information.

The communique adds that Venezuela reiterates its permanent position based on Article 5, Paragraph 2 of the Geneva Agreement of 1966, which states that no action or activity in that area will constitute a basis to assert, support, or deny a claim of territorial sovereignty. The document also reaffirms that Venezuela will not acknowledge concessions granted over the territory or continental platform it claims, and therefore it maintains due rights over those regions in any situation that may emerge.